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Published by North Carolina  
Association Electric Cooperatives, Inc.

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www.carolinacountry.com

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Carolina's electric cooperatives provide reliable, safe, affordable electric service to 750,000 homes, farms and businesses in North Carolina. The 27 electric cooperatives are each member-owned, not-for-profit and overseen by a board of directors elected by the membership.



Member, Audit Bureau of Circulations

Periodicals postage paid at Raleigh, N.C., and additional mailing offices. Editorial offices: 3400 Sumner Blvd., Raleigh, N.C. 27616. Carolina Country is a registered trademark of the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, Inc. (ISSN 0008-6746) (USPS 832800) Postmaster: Send form 3579 to P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611.

Individual subscriptions, \$8 per year. \$20 outside U.S.A. For a change address, send magazine mailing label to your electric cooperative.



Printed on recycled paper

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Carolina Country is available on cassette tape as a courtesy of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Raleigh, N.C. (919) 875-3062.

#### Our address changed?

Carolina Country magazine is available monthly to members of North Carolina's electric cooperatives. If you are a member of one of these cooperatives but do not receive Carolina Country, you may request a subscription by calling Member Services at the office of your cooperative. If your address has changed, please inform your cooperative.

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## We will miss "The Sod Father"

### A tribute to Jim Graham

By Rep. Bob Etheridge



*The following is excerpted from a tribute delivered in the U.S. Congress from Rep. Bob Etheridge, Democrat from Lillington, who represents the 2nd District.*

When Jim Graham announced that he would not be a candidate for re-election to the post he has held since 1964, citizens of the state could be pardoned if they looked to the heavens for a possible misalignment

of the planets. After all, this individual has become a North Carolina icon, beloved by the farmers he promised "to take care of," and by individual citizens who appreciated his unfailing good humor and dedication. "I love my job," Jim Graham said at the end of every speech he gave. He meant it, and the people knew.

Still, North Carolinians will understand and approve of the Commissioner's decision. He is, after all, now 78 years of age; he has served well and long; and he deserves a respite from the day-to-day turmoil that is characteristic of any public office. His friends — and all of North Carolina is filled with Jim Graham's friends — wish for him peace and joy for the rest of his years.

It is extremely doubtful that any campaign for Agricultural Commissioner will ever be as colorful as those run by Graham, who could bray like the donkey of the party he represented and was not above making promises that others would never have dared keep. Such as the one Graham made that he would kiss the north end of a mule who was headed south if a particular county would vote Democratic from the top of the ticket to the bottom. And it did, and he did.

Graham came to the job of Commissioner of Agriculture like an eagle returning to its nest — without hesitation. Reared on a farm in Rowan County, he knows whereof he speaks when he talks about the "sweat and blood" farmers must expend in order to make a living.

The Commissioner was born on April 7, 1921, to a Rowan County couple, the late James T. and Laura Graham. He attended high school in Rowan County and is a graduate of his beloved North Carolina State University. Graham taught agriculture in Iredell County for three years, then became superintendent of Upper Mountain Research Station in Laurel Springs before becoming manager of the Winston-Salem Fair for three years. After a one-year stint as secretary of the North Carolina Hereford Association, he became general manager of the State Farmers Market. Gov. Terry Sanford, who never hesitated when the job came open upon the death of L.Y. Ballentine, appointed him Commissioner of Agriculture in 1964.

Commissioner Graham's tenure as Agriculture Commissioner coincided with North Carolina's transition from a largely rural agricultural state known chiefly for its tobacco to the growing Sun Belt technology giant it is becoming today. Jim Graham prospered in that atmosphere, glorifying farmers wherever he went. He also began promoting new crops North Carolina farmers had not grown before. He organized state farmers markets in Asheville, Greensboro, Charlotte, Raleigh, and Lumberton, but he also promoted the use of microelectronics technology for the inspection of meat, poultry and seafood so consumers could be protected.

Graham was an early proponent of foreign trade, realizing that North Carolina farmers would be better off if they could sell their products to the rest of the world. Today, the state is one of the leaders in the export of agricultural products.

Commissioner Graham, ever the showman on behalf of agriculture, was in his element as he grew the North Carolina State Fair into an event that today attracts more than 6 million persons annually. Presiding over it is always the "Sod Father" in his cowboy hat and boots, typically with a crowd following him around the fairgrounds.

But it is Graham's personality, his inner being, that will be most missed after his retirement. The kind of inner strength that caused him to personally care for his wife, Helen, as they fought the terrible disease of Alzheimer's that ended in her death last year.

Commissioner Graham is the soul of agriculture in this state and was proud of it. North Carolinians will miss him in that office. They will miss a public servant who never took himself so seriously that he could not reach out and grab a slice of the humor of life—even if the joke was on him.

Jim Graham has served his state and its people with distinction, with honesty, with hard work, and with honor. He is a gentleman who is also a gentle man. We thank a Kind Providence that it saw fit to place us on the same Highway of Life as James A. Graham, and allowed us to share that life.



Jim Graham outside the Raleigh Capitol



## *Thanks to the coach, the referee, the teacher, the commissioner, the co-op member, the friend*

Commissioner Graham is an electric cooperative member, because his Rowan County farm is served by the EnergyUnited co-op. Many co-op directors, managers and members themselves count Mr. Graham as a friend. Shirley L. Johnson of Statesville is one of them.



Shown in this photo with Jim Graham, Mr. Johnson was in high school in Iredell County when Graham went there, fresh out of college, to teach agriculture. Graham also coached basketball. Even though young Shirley Johnson had

a crippled right arm from birth, coach Graham encouraged him to play basketball. Graham also took him to see N.C. State and other teams play. Johnson became a crack shooter and ball handler, known for his hook shot.

Graham refereed some games, too. Mr. Johnson remembers how he would call a foul, then wag his behind at the player and say, "You was assin' off, boy!"

Mr. Johnson says Jim Graham inspired him in many ways. As years passed, Graham and Johnson would see each other in Statesville and in Raleigh. Commissioner Graham attended every Raleigh function of the North Carolina electric cooperatives that he could make. Even from a podium he would say, "I see old Shirley Johnson back yonder. Stand up and hold up your arm!" and he'd brag on coaching a one-armed basketball player.

Mr. Johnson, a farmer and milk truck driver, enjoyed supporting Jim Graham, too. "One time I was campaigning for him when he was in his third term," Mr. Johnson remembers. "I was up in Drexel speaking to my brother-in-law, who was a Republican. And I said, 'Listen, Hamilton, I know you're a Republican, but if you never vote for another Democrat, you should vote for old Jim Graham for Agriculture Commissioner. He will do a good job for us.' And my brother-in-law said, 'Well, I guess anyone'd be better than what we got in there now!' Of course, Jim had been in two terms already."

The electric cooperatives and Carolina Country wish Commissioner Graham a long and happy retirement. Thanks for everything.

— Michael E.C. Gery

Commissioner Graham can be reached at N.C. Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 27647, Raleigh, NC 27611v

## From our readers



### Some regulation should still apply to the utility business

A certain amount of regulation has always proved necessary to protect against abuses. For instance, to gain civil rights required much forceful regulation. Minimum wage laws have helped low-income workers some. Without rules, people making decisions for a population have always tended to discriminate against certain minorities.

If deregulation of electric utilities would bring any lower rates, these would certainly go to businesses that use a good deal of electricity. Somebody would have to make up the difference. That would be the low kilowatt-hour consumers, particularly low-income people.

Some regulation helps keep us honest in our responsibility to democracy.

**Ray Scott**  
*Low Gap*

### How to tell what weather is coming

#### *Watch for terrapins*

I have an old wives tale or adage regarding the weather. When my father was living, I told him. He had not heard this one.

If you see a terrapin crawling up hill, it is going to rain. If the terrapin is crawling down hill, the weather will be fair.

**Marie C. Hall**  
*Sandy Ridge*  
*EnergyUnited member*



### Goat Crossing

Photography by James Hart Isley, 2686 Riverview Rd., Lexington, NC 27292



*The power of human connections*

# Patricia's mission:

## *Forgive, have faith, and move on*

By Holly Rainey

Once in a while you meet a person who can brighten your day, but rarely do you meet someone who can actually change your life. Patricia Sutherland is one of those people.

Patricia has overcome more hardship in her 18 years than most people do in a lifetime. Abused and neglected by both her parents while growing up in Winston-Salem, Patricia was placed in custody of the Department of Social Services when she was 8. She first lived with her two sisters, one younger and one older, in the Kennedy Home in Kinston, which is a part of the Baptist Children's Homes. Soon after she moved to the Broyhill Home in Clyde, where she still lives today.

The Broyhill Home, also a part of the Baptist Children's Homes, serves as a refuge for children from broken families. Patricia says she has enjoyed the eight years at the Broyhill Home, despite the fact that she doesn't get to spend much one-on-one time with her house parents, who care for 12 of the home's residents for 15-day periods. They have their hands full managing 11 other kids in her cottage. Still, she is always willing to sacrifice her own time for the benefit of the other children. "I'm the person everyone comes to," she says, which is why she is president of the Campus Council at the Broyhill Home.

Besides the emotional scars left by childhood, Patricia also endures a myriad of physical ailments. Since birth she has suffered from Turner's syndrome, a condition that affects her balance and coordination and requires daily medication. As a child, she was so severely neglected that when the DSS took custody of her she had not received her medicine in four months. She also struggles with heart problems caused by a narrowing in the main valve of her heart. In March 1992, she had open-heart surgery. Doctors say she can expect to need it again in the near future.

In February, doctors found a spot on her brain. Test results revealed that it was not cancer and is not life threatening. Specialists believe it could be a result of trauma from when she was a baby.

Somehow, all these emotional and physical trials seem only to have made Patricia Sutherland stronger, more resilient. "Some people said I couldn't do things," she says. "Doctors said I wouldn't live. But I did, and I'm doing very well." Patricia is quick to explain that her strong faith in God has helped her endure obstacles in her life. She has tried to live by the Bible verse

Philippians 4:13: "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." Her faith is the most important thing in her life. Before she became a Christian at a church youth retreat in 1995, she would act out her anger and frustration by throwing fits.

Two years after the youth retreat, Patricia was speaking at Hazelwood Baptist Church in Haywood County where she met Jack and Joan Sammons. Patricia impressed Mr. Sammons, the director of missions for the Hazelwood Baptist Association, who soon discovered that, unlike the other children at the Broyhill Home, she did not have biological family or a "visiting" family to take her off-campus for weekends. The Sammonses have since spent much time with Patricia and are in the process of working on certification to be her foster family. Patricia loves Mr. and Mrs. Sammons and says they sometimes stay up talking and praying until the wee hours of the morning.

Her relationship with her own parents has been one of her greatest disappointments. Her mother and father live separately from each other, but neither lives far from Patricia. Still, she rarely sees or hears from them. It has not been easy for her when the Sammonses need to negotiate with her parents regarding foster parent issues.

Patricia graduates from high school this month and, despite incredible odds, she will attend college in the fall. "I could have decided years ago to give up and be like the rest of my family and not graduate, but I wanted to be different," she said. She will go to Toccoa Falls College in Georgia, where she will pursue her dream to become a medical missionary. The college is only about an hour from the Sammonses, and she hopes to be able to spend her holidays with them.

In some ways, Patricia already is on a mission. Instead of distressing about her misfortunes, she considers herself blessed to be able to help others.

Besides attending school, she teaches Sunday school to Spanish migrant children, volunteers at BrittHaven Nursing Home, works at a daycare center, and gives her Christian testimony at churches around the state. This summer she will work as a counselor at Sunshine Camp near Washington, D.C. "I want to go forward and accomplish whatever God has for me," she says, "no matter what the obstacles."

Patricia heard something recently that she says she will never forget. Ken Thomas, manager of marketing and communications for Haywood EMC, told her that the most important lesson to learn in life is how to forgive people. Patricia agrees: "No matter what happens, you have to forgive to move on."

## Recognizing ability and accomplishment

Patricia Sutherland of Haywood County is one of three young people who this year received scholarships from the Volunteers Committee of North Carolina's electric cooperatives.

Students who participated in the Rural Electric Youth Tour, an annual educational trip to Washington, D.C., are eligible to apply. The scholarships were awarded in Raleigh in April.

Jason Blevins of Ashe County and Krystal Chojnacki of Sanford also received scholarships this year. Two of the scholarships are named for cooperative leaders: Gwyn B. Price and Katie Bunch. The Gwyn B. Price Scholarship, established in 1981, awards \$2,500 to a deserving student. Price was a pioneer in rural electrification in North Carolina. A \$2,000 scholarship honors Katie Bunch, who was involved in the volunteer programs of Pee Dee EMC for nearly 30 years.

The scholarship program was established to contribute to the development of future leaders from among the young people in our rural areas who otherwise might not have the opportunity to continue their education.

"This scholarship would be a major help in trying to reach my dreams to go to college," said Patricia Sutherland, this year's recipient of the Gwyn B. Price Scholarship.

For more information on the Volunteers' Committee programs, contact Lois Goodwin at (800) 662-8835, ext. 3067.

*Holly Rainey graduated this spring with a degree in communications from N.C. State University. She was a Corporate Communications intern at North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation.*



*Patricia Sutherland, a resident of the Broyhill Home, received a scholarship from North Carolina's electric cooperatives in April. Jack and Joan Sammons were by her side when she did.*



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# Clinton visits Whiteville to push Internet access, and Gov. Hunt responds

*President Bill Clinton visited Columbus County in May and said, "Internet access ought to be just as likely as telephone access. You ought to be able to use it in the fastest possible way. And, if you can, it'll mean more jobs, more businesses, higher incomes and more opportunity. . . .*

*You know what the highways brought to the rural south. You know what electricity brought to the rural south. What did they do? They helped to make it possible for people to live out here in the country and move back and forth and make a living."*

The speech outside the Whiteville railroad depot rekindled visions of when President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1938 dedicated the Lamar Electric Membership Corporation's new electric lines in Barnesville, Ga. Roosevelt said, "Electricity is a modern necessity of life and ought to be found in every village, every home, and every farm in every part of the United States."

Welcoming Clinton to the state, Gov. Jim Hunt responded by announcing that telecommunications providers say they will provide high-speed Internet access to all residents of North Carolina, rural as well as urban, within three years. Hunt said the agreement between his administration and the telecommunication companies in the state would erase the "digital divide"

between rich and poor, and provide broad new avenues for commerce in isolated rural areas.

"Look what rural electrification did for this state," the governor said. "Look what telephone development did for this state. We ought to make high-speed, affordable Internet access as common as the telephone."

The agreement for wiring rural areas for high-speed Internet service does not specify how the project will be funded, but it does pledge state tax credits to companies that extend their networks. Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (BEMC), based in Shallotte, through its affiliate the Rural Consumer Services Corporation (RCSC), has proposed to construct a fiber optic communication grid to serve the rural counties of Columbus, Brunswick, Bladen and Robeson. The network would consist of 400 miles of fiber optic cable and would be available to all medical centers, educational facilities, emergency management and law enforcement groups and state and local government offices.

"We regard our proposal as a pilot project which would bring reasonably priced connectivity to our rural areas and close our digital divide," said BEMC General Manager Chip Leavitt. BEMC estimates the cost of the network to be approximately \$10 million. The cooperative hopes to generate financial support from local, state and federal agencies.

Clinton also visited a BEMC member in Whiteville, Remote Data Systems, a company that sells environmental monitoring devices. Remote Data Systems is a tenant in one of the business development centers established by BEMC through its affiliate. BEMC operates three such business centers in Tabor City, Whiteville and Shallotte. Community colleges share in the management of each center.

Leavitt said, "The President's visit demonstrated that high-tech companies, incubated in cooperative programs, which link electric cooperatives and community colleges are the hope of rural economies."

Irwin Jacobs, CEO of the communications equipment maker Qualcomm, demonstrated a wireless modem that could provide high-speed Internet access in rural areas. Meanwhile, Qualcomm Inc. announced a \$1 million investment in wireless high-speed Internet connections for Whiteville and seven other rural communities.

Bill White (The News Reporter, Whiteville)



*President Clinton spoke to some 5,000 people in front of the Whiteville Railroad Depot on May 3. State and local dignitaries appeared with him on the speakers platform.*

## Chuck Terrill is elected to Touchstone Energy board

Chuck Terrill, chief executive officer of the North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation, has been elected to the national Touchstone Energy® board of directors for a three-year term.

The board formulates policy and procedures for the Touchstone Energy brand initiative. Touchstone Energy is a national alliance of local, cooperatively-owned utilities providing high standards of service to customers, large and small, and their communities.

More than 560 Touchstone Energy cooperatives in 38 states are delivering energy and energy solutions to more than 15 million customers everyday. In North Carolina, 24 of the state's 27 electric cooperatives are part of Touchstone Energy, and they serve more than 723,000 customers.

NCEMC is the power supply organization for North Carolina's electric cooperatives, which serve in 93 of the state's 100 counties.



**Chuck Terrill**



# Joe Nemechek is the first repeat winner of the Touchstone Energy® 300

Driver Joe Nemechek won the Touchstone Energy® 300 held in Talladega, Ala., on April 15, setting a Busch Grand National Series record as the first repeat winner. He won two years ago.

"From the pre-race to the winner's circle, everything ran like a well-oiled machine," said Mickey Miller, CEO of Nolin (Ky.) Electric and chair of the Touchstone Energy national board of directors. "On behalf of the Touchstone Energy® cooperatives, I would like to thank the exceptional people who worked so hard to make this event run smoothly and most of all our valuable customers, who share our excitement about NASCAR racing."

More than 115,000 spectators witnessed the Busch Series race and millions watched the live national telecast on ESPN2 and tuned in on the Motor Racing Network (MRN radio).



Touchstone Energy 300 winner Joe Nemechek in the Winner's Circle flanked at left by Mickey Miller (CEO of Nolin Rural Electric Cooperative of Kentucky and immediate past chair of the Touchstone Energy board) and at right by Geoff Gilpin (vice president of market development, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association).

The official green flag starting the race was waived by this year's Touchstone Energy 300 honorary starter, Randall Bell. Bell is a maintenance supervisor at Edgecombe-Martin County EMC in Tarboro. This honor was bestowed in recognition of Bell's dedication to the Touchstone Energy values of integrity, accountability, innovation and community involvement.

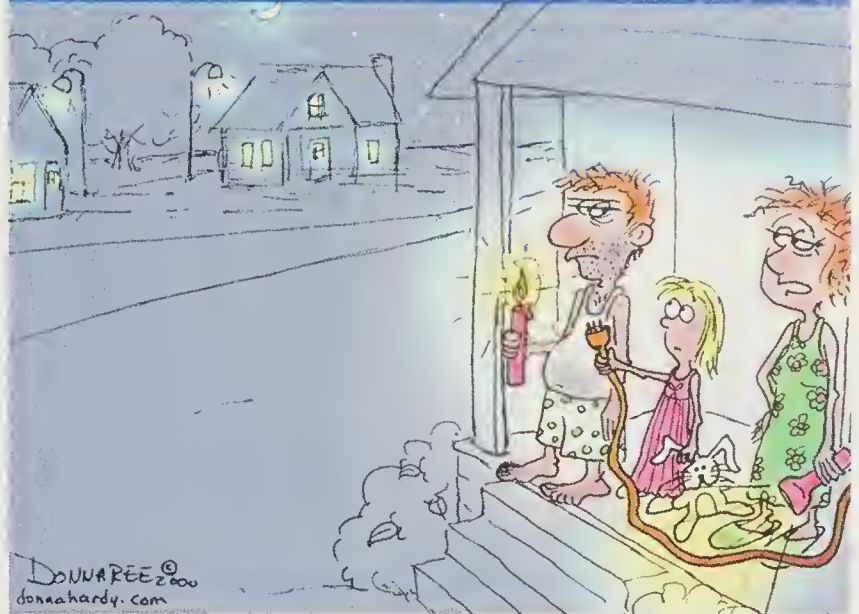
As part of the race weekend, Touchstone Energy® cooperatives joined the Talladega Superspeedway in supporting the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind by helping to raise more than \$200,000. The Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind is the most comprehensive institution of its kind in the country, serving children and adults who are deaf, blind or multi-disabled.

North Carolina's co-ops also sponsor the weekly racing report, "Trackside With Touchstone Energy," on the NC News Network throughout the racing season.

For more information visit: [www.touchstoneenergy.com](http://www.touchstoneenergy.com)

## Light Lines

by Donna Hardy



*Maybe the neighbors who have co-op power will let us run an extension cord until the power company gets ours back on.*

## Roanoke Electric helps build the job base in Halifax and Northampton counties

Oregon-based Reser's Fine Foods will build its first North Carolina facility in Halifax County, investing \$18 million and creating 320 jobs during the first three years. The 180,000-square-foot production and distribution center will be the company's largest. The plant will be located in the Halifax Industrial Center at the intersection of I-95 and N.C. 903. Roanoke Electric Cooperative is assisting in the company's move and is bidding to serve as its electric utility.

The company manufactures over 50 different kinds of potato salad, as well as a variety of macaroni and pasta salads, cole slaws, dressings, dips, tortillas, burritos and other prepared food items.

Roanoke Electric also was instrumental in attracting another large employer to the region, even though it does not serve as its utility. Fineline Industries, Inc., a leading manufacturer of competition ski towboats, has moved into the former Talon manufacturing building in Woodland. A California-based company, this will be Fineline's first facility east of the Rocky Mountains. Fineline will manufacture its line of Ski Centurion boats at the Woodland facility, where it expects to hire 120 people during the next three years. The Northampton County site was chosen over locations in Alabama, Oklahoma and Kentucky.

Gary Brown of the Northampton County Economic Development Commission said attracting Fineline was a team effort. Northampton County became involved with Fineline Industries through the efforts of the Northeast Partnership, he said.

Jennings White, chairman of the Northampton County Board of Commissioners, said, the success is largely attributable to project partners, in particular the Northeast Partnership, Roanoke Electric Membership Corporation, Roanoke Chowan Community College, the Town of Woodland, Halifax Horizons and the Northampton and Roanoke-Valley Chambers of Commerce.

Roanoke Electric secured economic development funding for Fineline through a federal program intended to assist rural areas.

The 16 counties that comprise the regional partnership are: Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington. For more information about North Carolina's Northeast Partnership, visit the Partnership's website at [www.ncnortheast.com](http://www.ncnortheast.com).



## *The power of human connections*

# **Eugene Clayborne retires as pilot of Carteret-Craven Electric**

*He navigated through the “energy crisis” and “storm of the century”*

By Michael E.C. Gery

In February 1974, Bernie Morton, who was manager of Carteret-Craven Electric Membership Corporation at the time, hired his good friend Eugene Clayborne to be his “staff assistant,” a job that required the 37-year-old to do whatever Mr. Morton told him to.

“I didn’t know anything about the electric business or co-ops,” Mr. Clayborne remembers. He had grown up in Grifton in Lenoir County, served in the Army National Guard, worked as an accountant, insurance agent and a state tax agent. Mr. Morton told him to write job descriptions for the co-op’s 30-some employees. “So I learned the coop business real quick.”

Then business broke loose. Those were the “energy crisis” years when we all lined up at the gasoline tanks as the price of fuel spiraled upwards. In his first year, Eugene Clayborne saw the co-op’s price of electricity climb 160 percent, and consumer complaints rose along with them. In the next few years it seemed everyone and his brother moved into Carteret and Craven counties. The co-op membership was growing at a 20 percent per year pace. “The lines we had were overloaded, even though we were building them as hard as we could. And a lot of people coming in said they weren’t used to outages or their lights blinking.”

He also was in charge of telling members they would no longer have to read their own meters and bringing in the meter readers to do it. Then he was in charge of introducing computers to the office.

In June 1983, Gene Clayborne was promoted to general manager when Mr. Morton retired. He remembers that Fourth of July, when the beach was packed, the temperature rose to 98 degrees and the humidity to 96 percent. Vacationers ran air-conditioners and kept the windows open at the same time. Powerlines were so overloaded they sagged into the trees. “It was enough to turn my hair gray,” even though he has yet to see that happen.

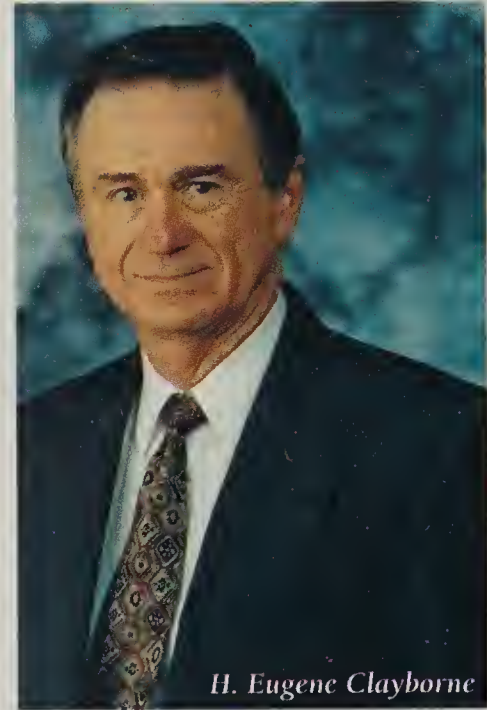
At the end of May, Hilton Eugene Clayborne at age 62 will have retired from all this. “But I wish I was 40 again and just starting out,” he says. “There are real opportunities in this business. Ten years from now, we won’t recognize cooperatives as they exist today.”

Just as Mr. Morton did, however, Mr. Clayborne methodically planned his retirement. “I will miss it,” he says. “But it’s time for the younger people to do it.”

Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative now serves more than 31,000 accounts over nearly 1,900 miles of line and employs 80 people. Its growth is a more manageable 3 to 5 percent per year. And Gene Clayborne is a known personality among the membership and their communities. Lately he found himself spending most of his time “in the community,” meeting with business people, educators and students, nearby military personnel, civic and church groups. He’d drive around with a resort hotel manager, for example, and explain how salt air spray affects the efficiency of power lines. “A manager should be visible and accountable,” he says.

He was the kind of manager who was visible among employees, too. During outages as crews worked to repair the system, “I would get out there myself with a pair of boots on and a bush ax. We have very good people in here running the phones. There was no point in hanging around here the whole time.” On several occasions, he and his wife, Hazel, took

**“Ten years  
from now,  
we won’t  
recognize  
cooperatives  
as they  
exist today.”**



*H. Eugene Clayborne*

dinners out to the crews during long periods of power restoration work. “When you have an emergency like that, you just do what it takes. Responding to that just gets in your blood. You know what you have to do.”

Eugene Clayborne is known as a steady, almost unshakable leader, with a quiet and kind manner. One of his passions is flying. He learned to fly in his 30s and bought his first airplane when he was 37. Then, “I used to trade airplanes like you trade cars.” He says, “There’s an awful lot of satisfaction in flying,” navigating above the hustle and bustle below, crossing mountains or coastlines, and returning before the day is out. He also is devoted to his church, where he has been music director for many years. (He’s an accomplished bluegrass musician, on guitar and mandolin.) And, it may go without saying, he plays golf and plays often.

In retirement, Mr. Clayborne may play even more golf and fly more places, but he also expects to stay on the ground and in the community. “Now, maybe instead of getting to places quickly, my wife and I can see more of what there is along the way.”

He and Hazel have been married 40 years. They have two daughters and a son, and five grandchildren.

The co-op’s board of directors chose Craig Conrad, vice president of Engineering and Operations, to succeed Eugene Clayborne. Mr. Conrad, like several top managers at the cooperative who were hired by Mr. Clayborne, has been with the co-op more than 20 years. “He knows this system like the back of his hand. He is well-rounded, hardworking and a good leader.”

When Carteret-Craven marks its 60th year during the annual meeting in late September, Craig Conrad will be introduced as its fourth general manager. The first manager, W.C. Carlton who lives in Matthews, as well as Eugene Clayborne expect to be there, too.

Mr. Clayborne can be reached at 186 Trailwood Dr., Newport, NC 28570.



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# Acts of kindness

Your stories about how nice people can be

We received so many stories telling us about "The Kindest Thing Anyone Ever Did." Each one was heartfelt and wonderful. Thanks to everyone who took the time to write us.

As we read each submission, what became overwhelmingly clear was that more often than not, the smallest gesture can make the biggest impact. Of course, there were stories of monumental acts of kindness, like donating an organ. That's a generosity of spirit that affects someone's life in the most profound way. But for the majority of us, the little things stick in our minds and our hearts. We can draw comfort from reflecting on those precious moments for years and years. What does that say about us? I'm not sure — maybe we're just simple folks who appreciate simple pleasures. That's all right with me. And from what I've read, it's okay with you, too.

If you'd like to read more, check out Tar Heel Tales on our Web site at [www.carolinacountry.com](http://www.carolinacountry.com). Next month we'll publish stories about "The Worst Storm I've Ever Seen." (Deadline was May 15.) For other themes of 2000, see page 14.

— Kim Whorton Tripp

## The Gloves



When I was a college student, I worked in a local retail store to supplement my income. I was working full-time during the holidays and not feeling particularly cheery, but one day something happened to change my attitude for good.

As I was checking out customers, an older woman commented on a pair of gloves that the woman in front of her was buying. She said that they would match a jacket that she owned, and she wondered how much they cost. When I told her, she shook her head and said that she just didn't have enough. After I had finished ringing up the items for the first woman, she turned and handed the green gloves to the other woman and said, "Merry Christmas." She explained that her own mother had recently died and that the older woman brought back memories of her. She wished me a Merry Christmas and left.

I saw tears in the older woman's eyes. That simple gift brought joy to three lives that day.

Machelle B. Lane  
Newton  
Rutherford EMC member

## The Runaways

When our daughter was just 13, she and a friend decided to run away from our home in Brunswick, Ga. They were hitchhiking.

A man picked them up on his way to Savannah. When he found out they were runaways, he talked them into returning home and bought them dinner and bus tickets so they would get home safely.

I always wished I could have thanked this man for his kindness and for the grief he spared our family had he not been the one to have picked them up.

Barbara J. Batty  
Elizabeth City  
Albemarle EMC member

## The Dance Partner

Everyone knows that children can be cruel. But sometimes children follow the kindness in their hearts.

When my son was 10, he attended a school dance with his fellow classmates. There was a little girl who had been born with birth defects that made her look different from the other children. She was often ridiculed. My son saw her crying and asked her what was wrong. She told him that no one would ever dance with her. Though he knew there would be consequences, my son asked the little girl to dance. Some of the kids laughed and picked on him for weeks. However, to his surprise and delight, the other girls in his class thought he was a great guy with a big heart.

My son has always made me proud, but on this day he filled my heart to the rim.

Lucinda Smith  
Locust  
Union Power Cooperative member



## The Fill-up

I am 85 years old. A couple of months ago, I stopped at a service station in Thomasville to get gas. There was a young man, whom I had never met before, at the other side of the pump putting gas in his vehicle. He finished before I did and went inside to pay. As I was going in to pay, I met him coming out.

When I came to the counter and pulled out my money, the ladies behind the register just smiled and said that I did not owe anything. I thought they must be joking. "That young man just paid for your gas," one said. I was dumbfounded. "I asked him if he knew you and he said no, you just looked like a sweet old lady," she added. I couldn't get over it.

Every day I ask God to take care of that young man. Wherever you are, thank you, and may God bless you for your generosity.

Thelma Beck  
Lexington  
EnergyUnited member



## The Knights

Our son, Paul, fell and sustained a severe injury that required surgery. When he was out of danger, I left the hospital for home. It was a cold January day, and I wanted to get home before dark. There were black clouds looming against the darkening winter sky, and a few raindrops were beginning to fall. I dreaded the 40-mile trip home.

A few miles down the freeway, my left rear tire began to bump. A flat tire, I thought, and I'm broken down in a rain-storm while cars are swishing past me. It was almost dark when I heard a tapping on my window. A tall man stood outside. He said, "My buddy and I saw you have a flat. We'll fix it for you." I turned around and saw his friend getting out of an old, red pick-up truck. They fixed my tire and refused my offer of \$20, but I insisted they take it.

As I drove through the darkness on my way home, I thought of the knights of old, dressed in their suits of armor, riding white horses to help a lady in distress. My knights came in blue jeans and jackets, and rode in an old, red pick-up truck.

Virgina Rhyne  
Lincolnton  
Rutherford EMC member

## The NAPA Truck

When my brothers and I were growing up, we spent a lot of our time outside playing in the sand pile at our grandparents' house. My granddad bought me a NAPA toy truck — one with a big cap on top of the truck cab. That white pickup truck with the blue cap held my attention until I grew out of that phase.

After my granddad passed away in January 1997, I took my first full-time job where I met my husband-to-be. That was our first year together. When Christmas came around, we exchanged gifts. I opened mine to find a brand new white NAPA toy truck with the classic blue cap on top. It even had sound effects. It touched my heart so much to know that my fiancée had remembered that detail of my childhood and had found a gift that rekindled the spirit of my granddad.

My old rusted toy has been replaced in the most special way by connecting my husband with my granddad, who my husband never met. That thoughtful gift will be cherished forever.

Monica Caudle  
Polkton  
Pee Dee EMC member



## Lady and Mr. Heber

I became acquainted with Mr. Heber J. Boyd in the late 1950s. He owned a small farm a few miles east of Pinetown.

One day when we were out in his barnyard, I asked him, "Why don't you sell your mule, you have a tractor now and don't need the mule."

"Nah," he said, giving his chew of tobacco a downward side grind. "Couldn't do that. That mule ("Lady") has helped make a living for me and my family for right many years. No, she's not for sale."

During the summer he would work with her in his garden. "A little exercise is good for her," he'd say. It was amazing to watch the two of them work together. They knew the language of the land. He seldom used the lines.

For the remainder of her life, there was plenty of green grass, pecan shade trees and a half barrel of cool water in the summer. In the winter, she had a clean, dry, warm stable with pads of soybean hay and corn on the cob to eat. Her hooves and mane were always neatly trimmed.

When the end came, Lady was given a hand-shoveled burial beneath the soil the two of them had worked for so long.

Mr. Heber was the most genuine person I have ever known. My three boys thought their granddaddy was a pretty good fellow, too.

Jasper E. Woolard  
Pinetown  
Tideland EMC member

## The Birthday Present

On May 13, 1997, I gave birth to my son, Joey. My husband and I were on top of the world. After everything settled down that night, my husband, Joe, went out to get us some supper while I rested. I didn't

## Our Son

Nearly six years ago, my husband and I met a teenager, a delicate, shy, well-mannered girl, who changed our life. Jill was 16 years old and nine months pregnant. She wanted to meet us because she was looking for a loving couple to raise her child as their own. Her family welcomed us warmly, and there was a sense that something larger than all of us was taking place.

We expressed our disappointment at our inability to have a child. Jill explained that she wanted to go to college and wasn't able to provide the type of home her baby deserved. As we left that afternoon, a new family was created. Now our two families are forever intertwined.

A few weeks later we welcomed our son into the world. I am forever indebted to the beautiful young girl who considered the interests of her baby and selflessly gave us our child.

Wendy Koterba  
Charlotte  
EnergyUnited member

know it, but he went to Harris Teeter and picked out a dozen red roses and a big balloon. While he was in line waiting to pay, he began talking to two older men in the line near him. Joe told them about our son's birth and how happy he was.

When it came Joe's turn, the cashier said that the flowers were already paid for. My husband caught up with the man who had been ahead of him in line and tried to pay him, but he wouldn't accept any money. He just said, "Go back to your wife and baby and spend time with them. Enjoy life!"

So, whoever you are, your act of kindness has never been forgotten and will always be part of the memories of our son's birth.

Alesia Underwood  
Waxhaw  
Union Power Cooperative member

## The Kidney and the Pancreas

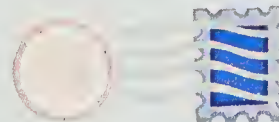
The kindest thing anyone ever did for me was in 1996 at Duke Hospital in Durham. In November 1995, I was put on an organ donor list because I needed a kidney and pancreas transplant. In March 1996, I had to go on dialysis because I was getting sicker.

The call came on April 14, 1996. The operation took 10 hours. One week later I was back at home.

Today, I am no longer diabetic. I can never thank the person who did this wonderful thing for me. He gave me a new life, and every day I thank God for that special person. What greater gift can anyone give?

It has been four years, and I am doing great. I want everyone to know that being an organ donor is the kindest thing you could ever do.

Curtis Campbell  
Hubert  
Jones-Onslow EMC member







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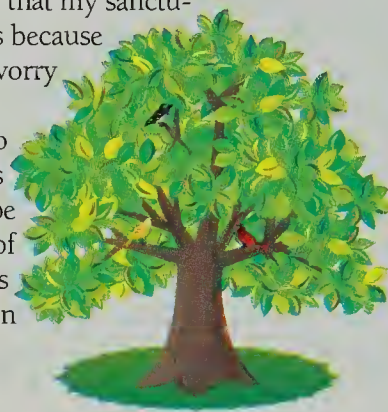
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Trees and the Co-op

I have always had a love affair with trees. When we built our house 35 years ago, we built on what used to be a pasture. I immediately went to planting trees. Eventually I had enough growing in my backyard to make a canopy. There was shade everywhere. I added ferns, liriopse, azaleas and philodendrons. I built a beautiful, relaxed atmosphere for sitting in the swing and watching the wildlife. I also had a light line running through my back yard. Eventually, the linemen from Piedmont EMC came through topping trees to keep them out of the line. This was the moment I had been dreading. The lineman explained to me that my trees posed a potential danger to me and my family, as well as to the electric company and the men who worked the lines. Of course, it broke my heart to think that my sanctuary would be destroyed. I guess the lineman sensed this because he told me that he would be back later and not to worry about the trees just yet.

When he returned he told me that he was going to move the line out of my back yard and re-route it. This gesture went beyond the call of duty, and I will always be grateful for this generosity in keeping my little peace of paradise intact. It was the nicest thing that anyone has ever done for me, especially someone who didn't even know me.

Carolyn Pittard  
Oxford  
Piedmont EMC member



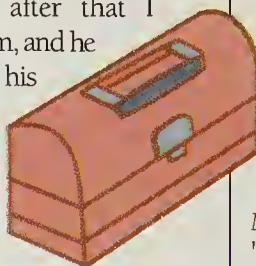
## On Purpose

There is a story in the bible about Boaz, a wealthy farmer who befriended two widows, Naomi and Ruth. When the two requested permission to glean the stray stalks of grain behind the harvest workers, Boaz instructed the laborers to "drop handful on purpose."

My dad lost his business at the beginning of the Great Depression. Later he landed a job with the WPA, building roads and schoolhouses. He would leave home at dawn and return after sundown. His pay was 50 cents per day. One evening when he returned and sat down on the back porch to remove his dusty shoes, I opened his lunch box and peered inside. There was a fragment of an egg sandwich he had not eaten. I eagerly gobbled it up, unaware that my dad had been watching me.

Each evening after that I would run to meet him, and he would hand me his lunchbox. There were always a few bites left uneaten. I wondered why he didn't like Mom's cooking. It wasn't until I had kids of my own that I realized he was leaving me "handful on purpose."

Howard E. Alley  
Highlands  
Haywood EMC member



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20	---	---	11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
21	---	---	11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
22	---	---	11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
23	---	---	11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
24	---	---	11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
25	---	---	11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
26	---	---	11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
27	---	---	11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
28	---	---	11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
29	---	---	11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
30	---	---	11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
31	---	---	11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
32	---	---	11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
33	---	---	11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
34	---	---	11.94	11.33	19.25	17.71	31.50	28.43
35	---	---	11.94	11.41	19.25	17.93	31.50	28.87
36	---	---	12.03	11.50	19.46	18.15	31.93	29.31
37	---	---	12.12	11.59	19.68	18.37	32.37	29.75
38	---	---	12.21	11.77	19.90	18.81	32.81	30.62
39	---	---	12.39	11.94	20.34	19.25	33.68	31.50
40	---	---	12.56	12.21	20.78	19.90	34.56	32.81
41	---	---	12.74	12.39	21.21	20.34	35.43	33.68
42	---	---	12.92	12.65	21.65	21.00	36.31	35.00
43	---	---	13.09	12.83	22.09	21.43	37.18	35.87
44	---	---	13.45	13.09	22.96	22.09	38.93	37.18
45	---	---	13.89	13.45	24.06	22.96	41.12	38.93

Call for more information

### MONTHLY RATES

Issue Age	\$50,000		\$101,000		\$250,000		\$500,000	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
46	---	---	14.42	13.71	25.37	23.62	43.75	40.25
47	---	---	15.13	14.07	27.12	24.50	47.25	42.00
48	---	---	15.92	14.51	29.09	25.59	51.18	44.18
49	---	---	16.72	14.95	31.06	26.68	55.12	46.37
50	---	---	17.60	15.39	33.25	27.78	59.50	48.56
51	---	---	18.48	15.83	35.43	28.87	63.87	50.75
52	---	---	19.37	16.27	37.62	29.96	68.25	52.93
53	---	---	20.34	16.89	40.03	31.50	73.06	56.00
54	---	---	21.40	17.51	42.65	33.03	78.31	59.06
55	---	---	22.81	18.31	46.15	35.00	85.31	63.00
56	---	---	24.23	19.10	49.65	36.96	92.31	66.93
57	---	---	25.73	19.99	53.37	39.15	99.75	71.31
58	---	---	27.50	21.05	57.75	41.78	108.50	76.56
59	---	---	29.71	22.28	63.21	44.84	119.43	82.68
60	---	---	32.62	23.79	70.43	48.56	133.87	90.12
61	---	---	36.25	25.47	79.40	52.71	151.81	98.43
62	---	---	40.31	27.23	89.46	57.09	171.93	107.18
63	---	---	45.00	29.27	101.06	62.12	195.12	117.25
64	---	---	50.30	32.01	114.18	68.90	221.37	130.81
65	---	---	56.31	35.54	129.06	77.65	251.12	148.31

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Duplin County marks its 250th year

# Down Home Country

Sonny Sikes



"Lord Dupplin," portrayed by George Lloyd during Duplin County's 250th year. He stands in front of Liberty Hall, the Kenan family homestead.

We have a band here in Duplin County with several fantastic singers who perform all over. They are known as Down Home Country. Well, if I had to describe in three words what Duplin County is, those three words would say it perfectly.

Duplin County has always been known for its peaceful, quiet countryside. This is a place where you can take off your hat, prop up your feet, rest a spell, enjoy good country cooking and good country music. Most of us here are about as country as country can get for being "down home country."

Dr. Dallas Herring from Rose Hill, a passionate sponsor of education in North Carolina, said recently "If you want to know about Duplin County, you measure the people in Duplin County. Not the map, not the buildings."

Incorporated on April 7, 1750, Duplin County this year is celebrating its 250th birthday, a once-in-a-lifetime event. Duplin was named for Sir Thomas Hay (1710-1787), Lord Dupplin (spelled with two p's), Eighth Earl of Kinnoull and a member of the Board of Trade and Plantations. He lived in Dupplin Castle, Perth, Scotland. The original castle has been demolished and a bed-and-breakfast inn has been built close to the same location and bears the same name.

Located in the fertile southeastern part of the state, Duplin County is located about 40 miles from the Atlantic Ocean, northwest of Wilmington. Duplin County's 815 square miles include the county seat of Kenansville and the townships of Albertson, Cypress Creek, Faison, Glisson, Island Creek, Limestone, Magnolia, Rockfish, Rose Hill, Smith, Warsaw and Wolfscrape, among others. Kenansville was named for Gen. James Kenan (1740-1810), a Revolutionary War officer whose family lived here. Our population is nearly 42,000. Driving around the rural countryside, you will see old tobacco barns or pack houses with rusted, tin roofs — relics of yesteryear. You will also see long fields of tobacco, corn, soybeans and cotton. Almost every town in the county has historic buildings, including those in Kenansville: Liberty Hall (the restored Kenan family ancestral home), the Duplin County Courthouse, the Cowan Museum, and the Country Store.

The county is filled with friendly folks who drive by and throw up their hand to wave to anyone who passes, even perfect strangers. Most of us live a slow pace of life and are somewhat laid-back. We love our families and support our neighbors, as we saw so noticeably during

By Iris Dean Brown Raynor





*Signs of Duplin's proud past.*

the 500-year flood that came after Hurricane Floyd stayed too long in 1999.

The little churches in the countryside and larger churches in towns are still among the favorite places to go on Sundays. Some church groups still have dinners on the grounds, when they stretch out rolls of chicken wire about waist-high between two or more trees to make a long table that holds carefully prepared dishes. During the good times and especially during the trying times, the people here depend on their faith.

We like to eat locally-grown collards — cooked with a ham bone — and sweet potatoes, fried chicken, ham biscuits, grits with red-eyed gravy, and North Carolina pork barbecue. Almost every family grows their own vegetable garden. Sweet corn fills many freezers for the winter season. We grow crowder field peas, okra, peppers, onions, and turnips by the bucketful, and some are sold at local grocery stores and farmers markets. The flea market makes the town of Wallace a popular place on Thursday mornings for fresh fruits, vegetables and other items.

A favorite stop for visitors is the Duplin Winery in Rose Hill. It's a gem, it's historic, it has delicious wines, and during certain weeks of the year the winery features a dinner theater. For those who hunger for good-old North Carolina barbecue, Billy's Pork Outlet & Restaurant located in the Cedar Fork Community near Beulaville is the perfect place to stop. If you love collards, head to the Wagon Wheel Restaurant in Beulaville. (They also have delicious seafood platters.) For a country setting, go to Cavanaugh Family Supper House in the Northeast community near Wallace. For a succulent steak, try the Country Squire Restaurant located between Kenansville and Warsaw. The Gray Fox adjacent to the Country Squire is also known for its fine dining.

If an artist were commissioned to paint rural scenes of Duplin County, his or her brush would pick up colors such as warm yellow ochre and raw sienna for our gorgeous fall season fields of soybeans (what a beautiful sight), as well as for our warm and sunny summer days. Hunter and Winsor green would color our long, strawed pines, huge tobacco fields, and tall fields of corn that swing and sway. There would be antwerp and Carolina blue for our expansive, beautiful skies and bluebirds, and raw sienna and burnt umber

for the freshly plowed fields. Alizarin crimson and rose would paint our cardinals, strawberries, juicy tomatoes. White would show the tall steeples of country churches, our azaleas, and fluffy, white clouds. And then all the colors of the rainbow would paint our people.

Generations ago, Duplin County earned its living mostly from the forest and rivers, delivering pitch, turpentine and lumber to naval yards. For the past 100 years, farming has been our main source of income. For many years, "King Tobacco" was the cash cow. Back in the 1950s, textile companies introduced manufacturing jobs to the area. At that time, the county was relatively poor without much industry of any kind. But those days are gone. During the past 15 years, we have experienced industrial growth and a booming hog producing industry. Duplin County was the birthplace of hog farming.

Today, Duplin County is one of the fastest-growing counties in North Carolina. The tax base of the county has grown tremendously with increased revenues from the farms raising hogs, turkeys, chickens and cattle, as well as from processing and textile plants. County government has been able to increase health services, social services and police protection. A new countywide water system is available to most citizens no matter where they live in Duplin.

Interstate 40 from Wilmington to Raleigh has sliced through Duplin County, and Highway 24 has been widened to a four-lane road from Jacksonville to Kenansville. As a result the rural countryside landscape has changed forever. Some of Duplin County's old, thin, ribbons of dirt roads are now fast lanes, arteries of concrete, four lanes wide.

As with any change, some of what we are seeing is extremely good for the area, and some not so good. We are gaining new jobs and losing old jobs, greeting new people moving in and waving goodbye to others moving out.

But Norwood Raynor is not about to move out. A retired tobacco farmer and family man who lives in the Cedar Fork Community near Beulaville, Mr. Raynor frequently says, "This is the garden spot of the world, and I'll only leave here when the Lord takes me home."

*Iris Dean Brown Raynor is a watercolor artist who owns and operates Iris's Art Gallery & Studio in Beulaville. She is also a staff writer for The Wallace Enterprise newspaper, Oswald Publications, 107 North College Street, Wallace, NC 28466. She graduated from Mount Olive College in 1998 with a degree in business administration.*

## Celebrating Duplin County's birthday

A year-long schedule of events recognizing the county's formation began last April 7 with a performance of a historical play entitled "Window on Duplin History," written for the 250th anniversary and performed at James Sprunt Community College in Kenansville. We ended the evening by cutting a huge birthday cake. Forty different, delicious, homemade cakes were placed in a design of Duplin County. The next morning's opening ceremonies featured a parade with bands and floats bearing historical themes. Liberty Hall hosted old craft demonstrations, local artist displays, and Confederate and Union encampments. At Kenansville Park, we had a pickle-eating contest and 1860s style baseball games. Kids of all ages participated in historical games including sack races, three-legged races, egg walks, horseshoes, tug-of-war, and frog-jumping contests.

In May, there was a day-long tour through Duplin County.

Here are the other events that have been scheduled.

- June 9 - July 1: Friday and Saturdays at 8 p.m., an outdoor drama "Duplin Voices," at Kenan Memorial Amphitheater, Kenansville. Reservations: (800) 793-3726.
- June 10: Dedication of the new Wanoca Outdoor Theater, 7:30 p.m., Wallace.
- September 23: Family bike ride and bike rodeo, 9 a.m.
- November 9: Duplin County Hall of Fame Awards Banquet at 6:30 p.m.
- November 11: Historic Veterans Day Celebration, parade and tours of the Veterans Museum, 11:00 a.m. in Warsaw.
- November 11: Duplin County 250th Celebration Dance, at Kenan Auditorium, with the Embers, 8:30 p.m.

For more information about Duplin County and the anniversary events, contact Duplin County Tourism at (800) 755-1755 or (910) 296-2180. E-mail: [duplintounsm@duplinnet.com](mailto:duplintounsm@duplinnet.com)



### Duplin County Courthouse, Kenansville, circa 1956

This is a watercolor painting by Iris Dean Brown Raynor. It is available as a limited edition print (image measures 16 by 20 inches). The price is \$75 (plus \$7 for shipping and \$4.50 sales tax for N.C. residents). Contact Iris's Art Gallery & Studio, 493 Edmand Brinson Road, Beulaville, NC 28518. Phone: (910) 298-3793. E-mail: [irisr@duplinnet.com](mailto:irisr@duplinnet.com)





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*The power of human connections*

# Cooperative Volunteers make sure the Donor Quilt is sewn together

By Renee Gannon



Twenty squares. Twenty families. Twenty loved ones who gave “the gift of life, the gift of grace.” Twenty individual stories sewn into one quilt.

The 1999 Donor Quilt displayed at memorial services held in April in Greenville and Raleigh holds memories for families who lost a loved one last year. It also holds pride for those families who know others live because they gave so much. At the memorial services, more than 250 organ and tissue donor medals were presented to the state’s 1999 donor families.

Since 1998, donor families have had the opportunity to donate quilt squares honoring their loved ones. This year’s quilt honoring 1999 donors takes its place along side two others honoring donors from as far back as 1993. The first quilt was sewn

together by an organ recipient, the second by a donor family.

The latest one was sewn by Lorraine Hunt and Eula Hunt, members of Lumbee River EMC who are the resident quilting ladies of the Union Elementary community.

What began as an act of desperation became inspiration. According to Kristen Schoessler, aftercare coordinator for Carolina Donor Services, neither of the two previous quilters were available to sew together the third one. With the April memorial services fast approaching, Schoessler contacted Ginger Finney, chair of the North Carolina Electric Cooperatives’ Volunteers Committee, to ask the volunteers for help.

Organ and tissue donor promotion and education has been an ongoing project for the Volunteers Committee, and Finney of Halifax EMC knew her group could get the quilt made. After several phone calls, Schoessler was directed to Linda Locklear, community relations representative for Lumbee River EMC and coordinator of her co-ops’ Volunteers Committee.

## Volunteers to the rescue

The Lumbee River EMC Volunteers’ Committee often produce quilts for fundraisers. However, the regular quilters were not available on such short notice, says Locklear, but two ladies who make their living quilting were. Locklear told Schoessler the quilt would be done in time for the memorial services. Schoessler brought the 20 quilting squares sent by the donor families to Locklear on a Friday, who then quickly delivered

the squares to Lorraine and Eula Hunt. The quilt was complete the following Monday.

“The other quilts took two weeks to complete, but we were in a bind with this one. The ladies quilted it in less than two days,” says a still-amazed Schoessler. “The quilts mean so much to the families. Linda Locklear and the Volunteers Committee went beyond the call of duty to get the quilt completed in time.”

Locklear says the quilting ladies really came through for the co-op and the organ and tissue donor families. “We were all glad to do our part. It made me feel good,” she says. “It’s called ‘working together,’ especially with other organizations for such a worthwhile cause. And that’s what a co-op means, that’s what it’s all about.”

The three quilts are displayed at various organ and tissue donor awareness functions and loaned to hospitals for display. Family donor squares are already arriving in Schoessler’s office for the next quilt, whose production will again be coordinated by the co-ops’ Volunteers Committee.

For more information about the quilt or organ and tissue donation, contact Carolina Donor Services at (919) 489-8404. To find out how you can become involved in organ donor awareness, contact the EMC Volunteers statewide project coordinator, Lois Goodwin, at (800) 662-8835, ext. 3067, e-mail at [lois.goodwin@ncemcs.com](mailto:lois.goodwin@ncemcs.com).



*Each of the 20 squares on this year’s quilt has its own story, with each fabric piece or image in the square signifying something important in that life. Charles Stainback, remembered in this square, was a Halifax EMC lineman and meter reader for 31 years. His wife, Dawn, made his square from one of the many co-op baseball caps Charles possessed. She stitched on the co-op green ball logo patch for his service to the co-ops and a Navy insignia for his years spent serving the country. Charles donated a heart valve, bones and tissue.*

## Put your organ donation story in a book

The North Carolina Electric Cooperatives’ Volunteers Committee and Carolina Donor Services are joining together to create a memorial book to remember those cooperative families who have been touched by organ and tissue donation and transplantation. Please send your story to CDS, c/o Barbara Terrill, 3622 Lyckan Parkway, Suite 6002, Durham, NC 27707.



*10,000 paratroopers called his name on D-Day*

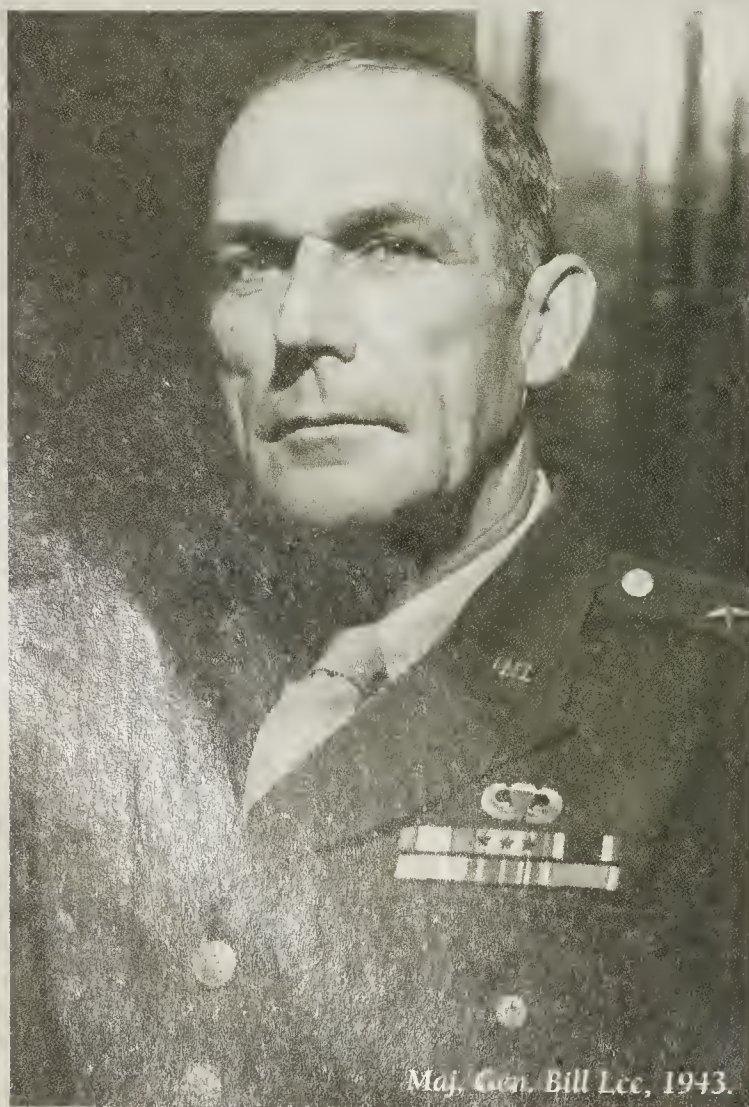
# William C. Lee, “Father of the Airborne”

*By Catherine O'Dell*

There was a time when people did not jump out of airplanes.

Jim Blue saw them do it for the first time in the summer of 1942 in a field outside Dunn, N.C. “We got on our motorcycles and said, ‘let’s go out and see those soldiers jump out of airplanes,’” Blue remembers. “We got there just about the time they were jumping. Here came the airplanes and we could see them standing in the door with football helmets on. They jumped from 700 feet then. I said, ‘That was pretty good. I think I’ll go and do that.’” And he did.

The skydiving unit Jim Blue joined that year was only two years old. And in two more years, on June 5, 1944, they would jump into the night skies over Normandy, France, for the D-Day invasion that soon liberated Europe from the Nazis. As waves of young American paratroopers hurled themselves into the night, they let out a new battle cry. It wasn’t the usual, “Geronimo!” they were used to yelling. It was “Bill Lee!”



*Maj. Gen. Bill Lee, 1943.*

William C. Lee is known as the “Father of the Airborne.” It was his determination in the late 1930s and early 1940s that led the U.S. military to develop a fighting paratroopers program. Today, a museum in his native town of Dunn honors the contributions he made to defending America’s freedoms. Jim Blue, devoted to Bill Lee since he saw those parachutes descend in Dunn in 1942, is the volunteer curator of the General William C. Lee Museum. He was one of those who jumped into Normandy on D-Day and spent his 23-year Army career with the 82nd Airborne Division, based at Fort Bragg.

Bill Lee was born in Dunn in 1895. He attended Wake Forest College from 1913-1915 before transferring to North Carolina State College (now North Carolina State University) where he studied education and became a part of the Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) program. His stint in the ROTC ignited a fire in Lee.

“Bill Lee was a real gentleman and a genius,” says Blue. “He ended up running the school’s ROTC program in the 1920s,” when he returned from duty in World War I.

World War I was a proving ground for reserve 2nd Lt. Bill Lee. He served as a platoon leader and company commander. He saw combat in France. Following the war, Lee remained on active duty, and in 1920 received a regular commission as a second lieutenant.

In 1922, he attended the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Ga. “But, Bill Lee had tanks on his mind,” says Jim Blue. In fact, even as a student he ended up teaching the class on armored vehicles. As a specialist in armored vehicles, Bill Lee by 1934 was in charge of the Demonstration Company at Fort Mead’s tank school in Maryland. He pursued this work at the French tank school in Versailles, then served as an exchange officer with a French armored unit.





Dwight D. Eisenhower, then commander of Allied Troops in Europe, gets an earful from Bill Lee at the airborne training grounds in Fort Benning.

"Bill Lee spoke perfect French," says Blue. "He spent a couple of years observing and training with the French. He gave classes and what have you."

During the latter 1930s, Lee saw Adolph Hitler's army grow. He was fascinated with the German paratroopers and had heard of experiments in Russia with soldiers jumping from airplanes. Lee saw the great potential for this sort of deployment tactic.

Upon returning to the states, Lee taught at Fort Benning before being assigned to the U.S. War Department in Washington in 1939. In Washington, he told anyone who would listen about the paratroopers he had seen in Europe and his ideas for a similar U.S. force. Eventually the Army said he could test the idea.

When Germans sent troops by air to land into Holland on May 10, 1940, Bill Lee's program went into high gear. First he worked with a platoon of 48 young soldiers from the 29th Infantry Regiment at Fort Benning, then commanded a provisional parachute group. He also began working on the benefits of using gliders, and on an idea of an early-jumping forward force of "pathfinders" who would scout a designated landing zone for jumpers who would follow.

Once the War Department approved his plan, Bill Lee went on a recruiting trip. The first place he thought to go was Fort Bragg, near his hometown of Dunn. Because of his enthusiasm, more than 1,000 volunteers applied for the 172 positions he would train at Fort Benning.

Once while visiting the New York State Fair, Lee saw fairgoers pay 40 cents to climb a 250-foot tower, put on a parachute, and jump. He thought the towers could help train his paratroopers. In 1940, he took his test platoon to Highstown, N.J., for a week's training on these towers. The training was so effective that two similar towers were built at Fort Benning.

"Bill Lee kept saying we need something larger, larger," say Jim Blue. "They went from a platoon to battalions to regiments," until finally Bill Lee created the airborne divisions, which contain thousands of soldiers.

On the night of June 5, 1944, some 10,000 soldiers from the 82nd Airborne (Fort Bragg) and the 101st Airborne (Fort Campbell, Ky) jumped from their aircraft into the D-Day invasion. The reason they hollered "Bill Lee!" instead of "Geronimo!" was because Maj. Gen. Lee was not with his troops. He had suffered a heart attack on Feb. 5 and was recovering at home in Dunn.

Maj. Gen. Matthew Ridgeway commanded the 82nd Airborne Division. Lee was commander of the 101st Airborne Division, of which Lee had said, "The 101st... has no history, but it has a rendezvous with destiny." To this day, "Rendezvous With Destiny" is imprinted on the 101st Airborne insignia.

Bill Lee's health forced him to retire from the army in October 1944, and he died in 1948 at the age of 53. His wife, Dava, was joined by the Army's highest brass for his funeral in Dunn.

## The General Lee Museum

The citizens of Dunn will always remember the accomplishments of their hometown hero. On June 6, 1986, they honored his memory with a museum dedicated to the "Father of the Airborne." The United States Senate designated this day as "William C. Lee's day in America."

The museum is housed in Lee's former home at 209 W. Divine St. in Dunn. The three-story home is filled with photographs, murals, dioramas and personal items chronicling Maj. Gen. Lee's career and World War II. Tall white columns stand outside this majestic brown-stone home,



which was built in 1903 and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. However, the most distinguishing part of the landscape is the large white marble statue of Bill Lee, which stands in the yard.

The museum has spent over \$600,000 to purchase the property and renovate the facility. The North Carolina General Assembly has appropriated an additional \$75,000 for repair and renovation work, which will be complete this year.

The museum is open Tuesdays through Saturdays 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. and is closed on Mondays, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. For more information, call (910) 892-1947.

## General Lee Day, June 1-3, Dunn

See parachute jumps and military displays, in addition to a golf tournament, pig cook-off, veterans breakfast, car show, arts and crafts and more. It's at Tart Park and other locations. For more information, call (910) 892-1947.

## The 82d Airborne Division Museum

This U.S. Army museum is located on Fort Bragg at the intersection of Ardennes and Gela streets. Visitors should drive to the post on Highway 24 (also called Bragg Boulevard) and turn into post on Gruber Road. Follow the signs to the museum site. There are signs on I-95 and NC 24 showing the way.

Hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Sunday 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed Monday. Open on holidays except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years. Phone: (910) 432-5307. Fax: (910) 436-4440. E-mail: 82abn@fayetteville.net

*Catherine O'Dell is manager of Member Services at South River Electric Membership Corporation in Dunn. She served as a military photojournalist in the U.S. Army*



The no-cost Internet bandwagon continues to accelerate, with Web sites, Web storage space, Web-based software programs, and Internet service providers offering services completely free of charge.

I've tested most of the major Web site creation tools that you have to pay for, including Macromedia Dreamweaver, the hottest HTML editor among professional Web designers, and Microsoft FrontPage, the most popular product but one that forces you to use other Microsoft products to take full advantage of it.

heard and read good things about, I created a Web site for sinus sufferers called Sinusitis FAQ (<http://www.sinusitis.homestead.com>).

Like similar services such as GeoCities (<http://www.geocities.com>) and Tripod (<http://www.tripod.com>), Homestead is targeted more to home users than business people. I was thus surprised to find e-commerce tools available. You can, for instance, add a shopping cart to your site and even accept credit-card payments.

Creating a site with Homestead is straightforward. You can start with one of the supplied templates and customize it for your purposes by dragging and dropping elements right onto the page. Among other things, you can add graphics, sound and video; provide chat and polling services; and offer local weather forecasts.

Still, free comes with its limitations. Building a Web site from a Web site is slow going, you have much less control and versatility compared with pay packages, and your site must display a banner ad at the bottom of each page.

Whether you use a service such as Homestead or conventional tools, there are plenty of other free offerings to enhance any type of Web site. Most offer free basic services and pay upgrades; some are ad supported.

It's best to resist the temptation to filch material from other sites, easy as it may be. Some sites even offer a wide selection of purloined copyrighted music and art. Stick to the up-and-up and you'll avoid legal hassles.

ArtToday (<http://www.arttoday.com>) provides access to more than 40,000 high-quality, fully licensed Web graphics, free of charge. Various levels of pay access offer more clip art as well as photos, fonts, and sounds.

Partners in Rhyme (<http://www.partnersinrhyme.com>) provides a large library of public-domain sound effects and royalty-free background music. The site also includes a helpful audio tutorial.

Page Talk (<http://www.pagetalk.com>) lets you put a button on your site that visitors can click to hear your voice. You just copy a few lines of HTML to add to your site's source code, then phone a toll-free number and record a message of 20 seconds or less. It's totally free.

iSyndicate (<http://www.isyndicate.com>) lets you add to your site syndicated written, graphical, audio or video content from more than 800 different sources, including big names such as Time and Merrill Lynch. Some of the content is free, some costs.

If your site includes a lot of content, whether created in-house or out, one helpful, professional touch is to provide visitors with an internal search engine. Atomz.com (<http://www.atomz.com>) lets you add either a simple or sophisticated search engine to your site and sends you a periodic report of what visitors are searching for. The service is free for sites with fewer than 500 pages.

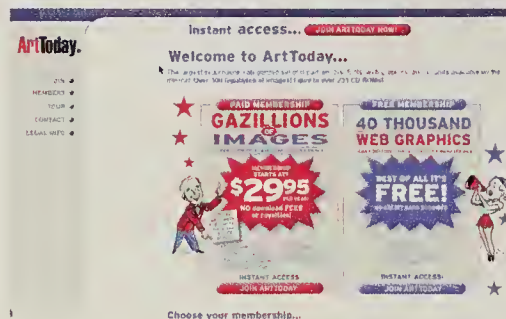
JavaScript can help make your site more dynamic, and you don't have to be a programmer to use it. JavaScriptSource (<http://javascript.internet.com>) offers more than 500 free scripts you can cut and paste into your site's HTML. Examples include pull-down menus and scrolling messages.

Interactivity is the Internet's greatest strength, and you can now add it to your Web site, free of charge. Beseen (<http://www.beseen.com>) can outfit your site with a message board or chat room. SpellChecker.net (<http://www.spellchecker.net>) gives visitors the option of spell checking their messages.

Creating forms that visitors can fill out is no easy matter. Response-O-Matic (<http://www.response-o-matic.com>) makes it easy — using a supplied template, you just fill in the blanks. Whenever a visitor completes a form, the service e-mails you the information.

If you're building a Web site as a storefront, instead of using a service such as Homestead where this is a sideline, you're better off using a specialized service. Bigstep.com (<http://www.bigstep.com>) provides "wizards" that walk you through the time-consuming process of setting up sophisticated e-com-

merce features, such as a catalog and reports. The service is free, though you're charged fees if you accept credit-card payments.



Reid Goldsborough is a syndicated columnist and author of the book "Straight Talk About the Information Superhighway." He can be reached at s or <http://members.home.net/reidgold>.



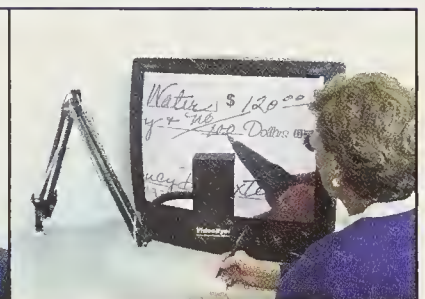
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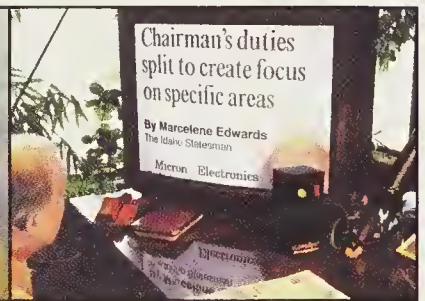
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## MOUNTAINS

### *Save the Sheep*

Through June 10, Asheville  
Folk Art Center, (828) 298-7928

### *Tom Sternal &*

#### *Martha Enzmann Art Exhibit*

Through June 17, West Jefferson  
Sculpture, furniture, paintings,  
drawings, Ashe Arts Center,  
(336) 246-ARTS

### *Southern Highland Craft Guild Celebration*

Through Aug. 20, Asheville  
Celebrating 70 years, Folk Art  
Center, (828) 298-7928

### *Mountain Heart in Concert*

June 2, West Jefferson  
Bluegrass, Ashe Civic Center,  
7:30 p.m., (336) 246-4483

### *"ART"*

June 2-11, Waynesville  
Comedy, Performing Arts Center,  
(828) 456-6322

### *Clay Day*

June 3, Asheville  
Pottery and ceramics, Folk Art  
Center, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.,  
(828) 298-7928

### *Auction, Music and Dance*

June 3, Canton  
Canton Recreational Park,  
7-10 p.m., (828) 648-7925

### *Avery Heritage Fest*

June 3, Newland  
(828) 898-5605

### *Courthouse Centennial Celebration*

June 4, Statesville  
Old Iredell County Courthouse,  
(704) 878-3050

### *Foothills Antique Car Club Annual Meet*

June 4, Hickory  
American Legion Fairgrounds,  
(828) 495-4170

### *Antique & Collectibles Fair*

June 10, Canton  
Main and Park Streets, starts  
at 9 a.m., (828) 648-7925

### *N.C. Chili Cook-off and Music Festival*

June 10, Union Grove  
VanHoy Family Farms  
Campground, (704) 539-5493

### *Art in the Park*

June 10, Blowing Rock  
Juried art and craft show, American  
Legions Grounds, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.,  
free, (828) 295-7851

### *Spring Arts & Craft Show*

June 10, Canton  
At Audrey's Barn on Newfound Rd.,  
(828) 648-2002

### *Albert Hash Memorial Festival*

June 10, West Jefferson  
Ashe Civic Center, 2-10 p.m.,  
(336) 246-4483

### *Bogs, Bugs and Beavers*

June 10-11, Pisgah Forest  
Cradle of Forestry, (828) 877-3130,  
www.cradleofforestry.com

### *Main Street Antique Show*

June 15, Hendersonville  
Main Street downtown,  
9 a.m.-5 p.m., (828) 697-2022

### *AICA PowWow*

June 16-18, Union Grove  
VanHoy Family Farms  
Campground, (704) 539-5493

### *"Horn in the West"*

June 16-Aug. 12, Boone  
Outdoor drama, (828) 264-2120

### *Brevard Music Festival Opening Gala*

June 17, Brevard  
Coasters, Drifters, Platters, Brevard  
Music Center, 7:30 p.m.,  
(828) 884-2019

### *Miniature Horse Race*

June 17, Taylorsville  
Bryant Farm, 7 p.m., free,  
(828) 632-3043

### *D'vine in Concert*

June 17, West Jefferson  
Gospel trio, Ashe Civic Center,  
7:30 p.m., (336) 246-ARTS

### *Downtown Studio & Gallery Tour*

June 17, Waynesville  
Walking tour, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., free,  
(828) 456-3517

### *Wayne C. Henderson Music Festival*

June 17, Mouth of Wilson, Va.  
Grayson Highlands State Park,  
10 a.m.-6 p.m., (540) 579-7092

### *"Magic School Bus"*

June 17-18, Blowing Rock  
Children's show, Tweetsie Railroad,  
1 p.m. & 3 p.m., (800) 526-5740

### *Father's Day in the Forest*

June 18, Pisgah Forest  
Cradle of Forestry, (828) 877-3130,  
www.cradleofforestry.com

### *Shadow of the Hills*

June 21-Aug. 12, West Jefferson  
Art exhibit, Ashe County Arts  
Council, (336) 246-ARTS

### *Rhododendron Festival*

June 22-24, Bakersville  
(828) 688-3456

### *"Suor Angelica" and "Gianni Schicchi"*

June 22 & 24, Brevard  
Puccini one-act operas, Brevard  
Music Center, 7:30 p.m.,  
(828) 884-2019

### *Louisiana Jazz Ensemble*

June 23, Brevard  
Brevard Music Center, 7:30 p.m.,  
(828) 884-2019

### *Kruger Brothers in Concert*

June 23-24, West Jefferson  
Bluegrass, old time, traditional  
music, Ashe Civic Center,  
7:30 p.m., (336) 246-4483

### *North American*

#### *Bowhunters Jamboree*

June 23-25, Union Grove  
VanHoy Family Farms  
Campground, (704) 539-5493

### *Haywood Gospel Jubilee*

June 24, Canton  
Canton Recreational Park, 6 p.m.,  
(828) 648-7925

### *Heritage Day and Wood Kiln Opening*

June 24, Lenoir  
Bolick Pottery and Traditions  
Pottery, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.,  
(828) 295-3862

### *Blue Ridge Mountain Craft Fair & Quilt Show*

June 24, Sparta  
Alleghany Arts Council,  
10 a.m.-5 p.m., (336) 363-2312

### *Doll Show and Sale*

June 24, Brevard  
American Legion Building,  
9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., \$2, under 12  
free, (828) 966-9567

### *Clogging Jamboree*

June 24-25, Blowing Rock  
Tweetsie Railroad, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.,  
(800) 526-5740

### *Festival Orchestra*

June 25, Brevard  
Brevard Music Center, 3 p.m.,  
(828) 884-2019

### *Chamber Music*

June 26, 28 Brevard  
Brevard Music Center, 8 p.m.,  
(828) 884-2019

### *Vocal Chamber Music*

June 27, Brevard  
Brevard Music Center, 8 p.m.,  
(828) 884-2019

### *Transylvania Youth Orchestra/ Wind Ensemble*

June 29, Brevard  
Brevard Music Center, 8 p.m.,  
(828) 884-2019

### *Pops Concert*

June 30, Brevard  
A night at the movies, Brevard  
Music Center, 7:30 p.m.,  
(828) 884-2019

### *Love Valley Rodeo*

June 30-July 1, Love Valley  
(704) 592-7451

### *Christmas in July Festival*

June 30-July 2, West Jefferson  
(336) 246-5855

### *Mountaineer Auto Show & Flea Market*

June 30-July 3, Maggie Valley  
Hwy. 276N, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., \$3,  
(828) 452-2317

## PIEDMONT

### *Wood Art Exhibit*

Through October 8, Charlotte  
Mint Museum of Craft + Design,  
(704) 337-2000

### *Jazz: An American Music*

Through July 30, Winston-Salem  
Exhibit, Reynolda House,  
(336) 725-5325,  
www.reynoldahouse.org

### *To Have and To Hold:*

#### *135 Years of Wedding Fashions*

Through Aug. 13, Charlotte  
Mint Museum of Art, (704) 337-2000,  
www.mintmuseum.org

### *Rodin Exhibit: The Thinker and other works*

Through Aug. 13, Raleigh  
N.C. Museum of Art,  
(919) 839-6262

### *Little Brides: The Golden Age of Fashion Dolls, 1950-1970*

Through Sept. 1, Charlotte  
Mint Museum of Art,  
(704) 337-2000,  
www.mintmuseum.org

### *Carolina Butterfly Pavilion*

Through Oct. 1, Durham  
Museum of Life and Science,  
(919) 220-5429

### *Old Time Radio Conference*

May 31-June 1, Mount Airy  
Andy Griffith Playhouse,  
(336) 786-7998

### *Toe-Tapping Days*

June 4, 11, 18, 25, Pinnacle  
Traditional music, Horne Creek  
Farm, 2-4 p.m., (336) 325-2298

### *"Ripple in the River"*

June 1-3, 8-10, Polkton  
Outdoor drama, Helen Goodman  
Amphitheater, (704) 694-5211

### *How Things Work*

June 1-Aug. 31, Durham  
Interactive exhibit, Museum of Life  
and Science, (919) 220-5429

### *Bluegrass & Old Time Fiddlers' Convention*

June 2-3, Mount Airy  
Veterans Memorial Park,  
(336) 786-6830

### *Gem & Jewelry Show*

June 2-4, Greensboro  
Greensboro Coliseum,  
(336) 373-7400

### *Rust & Dust Tractor, Engine and Car Show*

June 2-4, East Bend  
East Bend Recreation Center,  
(336) 699-4385



**"Arsenic and Old Lace"**

June 2-4, 7-10, Southern Pines  
Comedy-drama, Sunrise Theater,  
(910) 692-3799

**Civil War Relics**

June 3-4, Raleigh  
Scott Building, N.C. State  
Fairgrounds, (704) 289-1604

**Rail Days**

June 3-4, Spencer  
N.C. Transportation Museum,  
\$12 adults, \$6 kids 3-12,  
(704) 636-2889

**Military Trade Show**

June 3-4, Raleigh  
N.C. State Fairgrounds,  
(704) 282-1339

**WWII Warbird Air Show**

June 3-4, Asheboro  
Asheboro Municipal Airport,  
9 a.m.-4 p.m., \$5, under 10 free,  
(336) 625-0170

**Senior's Day**

June 7, Greensboro  
Fun for senior citizens, Piedmont  
Triad Farmers Market,  
10 a.m.-1 p.m., (336) 605-9157

**Antique Power Festival**

June 9-10, Albemarle  
Stanly County Fairgrounds, \$4,  
(704) 982-6707

**Gem & Jewelry Show**

June 9-11, Raleigh  
Scott Building, N.C. State  
Fairgrounds, (941) 954-0202

**"No Sex Please, We're British"**

June 9-25, Sanford  
Comedy, Temple Theatre,  
(919) 774-4512

**Komen N.C. Triangle**

**Race for the Cure**  
June 10, Raleigh  
Fundraiser for breast cancer  
research, 5K run/walk, 1 mile  
fun run, Meredith College,  
(919) 493-CURE,  
[www.nctrangleforrace.org](http://www.nctrangleforrace.org)

**African-American Heritage Festival**

June 10, Sedalia  
Charlotte Hawkins Brown  
Memorial, 9 a.m.-8 p.m.,  
(336) 449-4846

**Gaithers Homecoming Concert**

June 10, Fayetteville  
Gospel, Crown Coliseum, 6 p.m.,  
\$24.50/\$17.50, (910) 323-5088

**Civil War Re-enactment Youth Days**

June 10, Waxhaw  
Ages 10-17, Museum of the  
Waxhaws, (704) 843-1832

**Toy, Hobby & Sportscard Show**

Greensboro Coliseum,  
(336) 373-7400

**"Antony & Cleopatra"**

June 16-17, 22-25, 29-July 1,  
Raleigh  
Play, Theatre in the Park,  
(919) 831-6058

**Crawfish Boil**

June 17, Greensboro  
Piedmont Triad Farmers Market,  
(336) 605-9157

**Festival of Gold and N.C. Open  
Gold Panning Competition**

June 17, Stanfield  
Reed Gold Mine, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.,  
(704) 721-4653

**Bug Bowl South**

June 17, Durham  
Festival, Museum of Life and  
Science, (919) 220-5429

**Fine Arts Festival**

June 17-31, Southern Pines  
Campbell House, (910) 692-4356

**Gospel Play:**

**Who Promised Tomorrow**

June 20-21, Fayetteville  
Crown Coliseum Auditorium,  
(910) 323-5088

**"The Sword of Peace"**

June 21-August 12, Snow Camp  
Call for dates and times, Snow  
Camp Outdoor Theatre,  
(336) 376-6948

**State Singing Convention**

June 24-25, Benson  
Gospel, free, (919) 894-3825

**Tobacco Farm Life Museum  
Anniversary**

June 24-25, Kenly  
Festival, free, (919) 284-3431

**"Pathway to Freedom"**

June 28-August 11, Snow Camp  
Call for dates and times, Snow  
Camp Outdoor Theatre,  
(336) 376-6948

**Legends of Gospel Concert**

June 30, Fayetteville  
Crown Auditorium, 7 p.m.,  
(910) 323-5088

**Professional Rodeo**

June 30-July 1, Woodleaf  
Circle T Ranch Arena,  
(704) 278-2069

**Southeast Old Threshers' Reunion**

June 30-July 4, Denton  
Denton FarmPark, (336) 859-2755,  
[www.threshers.com/farmpark](http://www.threshers.com/farmpark)

**COAST**

**Obsolete Objects**

Through Sept. 4, Wilmington  
Obsolete everyday items, Cape Fear  
Museum, (910) 341-7413

**"The Hole World"**

Through Sept. 30, Wilmington  
Underground animals exhibit, Cape  
Fear Museum, (910) 341-4350

**African-American Builders &  
Architects in NC: 1730-1865**

Through Dec. 31, Elizabeth City  
Exhibit, Museum of the Albemarle,  
free, (252) 335-1453

**Fabulous 40s 50-cent**

**Fantail Film Festival**

June 2, 9, 16, 23, Wilmington  
1940s musicals, Battleship North  
Carolina, 8 p.m., 50 cents,  
(910) 251-5797

**Biscuits, Tractors & Barns!**

**Building the Family Farm**

June 3, Elizabeth City  
Museum of the Albemarle, 10 a.m.-  
4 p.m., free, (252) 335-1453

**Farmer's Day**

June 3, Fremont  
19th century farm, Charles B.  
Aycock Birthplace, 12:30-4:30 p.m.,  
(919) 242-5581

**North Carolina Kidfest**

June 3, Atlantic Beach  
Atlantic Beach Circle,  
(252) 247-5433

**Camp Yesterday**

June 5-9, New Bern  
Day camp for rising 4th-5th  
graders, Tryon Palace,  
pre-registration, (252) 514-4900

**The Sons of Neptune Sing**

June 6, New Bern  
Tryon Palace Auditorium, 7 p.m.,  
(252) 514-4900

**"Godspell"**

June 7-11, 16-18, 23-25,  
Wilmington  
Musical, Opera House Theatre,  
(910) 762-4234

**Cape Fear Shakespeare Festival**

June 8-10, 15-17, 22-24, 29-July 1,  
Wilmington  
Greenfield Lake Amphitheater, free,  
(910) 251-9457

**Disabled Sportsmen's**

**Fishing Tournament**

June 9, Kure Beach  
Kure Beach Fishing Pier,  
7 a.m.-1 p.m., (910) 458-4401

**Mini-Concert and Dance**

June 10, Beaufort  
Dan Duggan with Berggren  
& Eyres, Duke Marine Lab,  
(252) 726-2399

**Ocracoke Folk Festival**

June 10, Ocracoke Island  
The Berkley Manor, 9 a.m.-10 p.m.,  
\$15 adults, \$5 kids,  
(252) 928-1039

**Baha'i Race Unity Festival**

June 10, Wilmington  
Greenfield Lake, 3rd Street,  
(910) 762-0354

**Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament**

June 10-17, Morehead City  
(252) 247-3575

**Arts by the Sea**

June 12, Swansboro  
Festival on the waterfront,  
(252) 726-8148

**N.C. Symphony Concert**

June 12, New Bern  
Tryon Palace South Lawn, 7 p.m.,  
free, (252) 514-4900

**Outdoor Pops Concert**

June 13, Morehead City  
Jaycee Park, 8 p.m.,  
(252) 504-2477

**"Worthy is the Lamb"**

Mid-June-Mid-Sept., Morehead City  
Outdoor drama, Crystal Coast  
Amphitheater, (800) 662-5960

**King Mackerel Tournament**

June 15-17, Wilmington  
Fundraiser for Children's Fishing  
Foundation, (910) 686-5433

**Bluegrass Festival**

June 16-17, Mapleton  
Darden Family Farm,  
(757) 583-8238

**National Hollerin' Contest**

June 17, Spivey's Corner  
(910) 567-2600

**Dinner Theatre Show**

June 17, Rose Hill  
Duplin Winery, 6:30 p.m., \$30.50  
per person, (800) 774-9634

**Carolina Beach Music Festival**

June 17, Carolina Beach  
Boardwalk, (910) 458-8434

**Juneteenth Cultural Parade and  
Family Day**

June 19, Wilmington  
(910) 343-4750

**Take a Kid Fishing**

June 21, Crystal Coast  
(252) 808-3500

**Old Homes and Gardens Tour**

June 23-24, Beaufort  
Walking tour, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.,  
(800) 575-7483

**Antique Show and Sale**

June 23-25, Morehead City  
Crystal Coast Civic Center,  
(800) 575-7483

**Miss Black Teen Pageant**

June 24, Wilmington  
(910) 763-3934

**Patriotic Celebration**

June 25, Askewville  
Askewville Ballpark, 2-5 p.m.,  
(252) 794-2792

Deadline for August June 25

A phone number must be included with  
event listings in order to be published.

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Compiled by Renee Gannon

## Preventing childhood poisoning

Last year, more than a million children nationwide under the age of 5 were exposed to potentially poisonous substances. Education and awareness are key elements of preventing childhood poisonings. The Carolinas Poison Center has created a new education program, The Caution Curriculum, which is now available to teach the parents and caregivers of children under the age of 6 about poison dangers.

The structured program is designed as a train-the-trainer instruction course for healthcare professionals who teach injury prevention or guide parents and caregivers in proper prevention techniques. Poisonous substances include many everyday objects, such as household cleaners, cosmetics, medicines, and even some plants.

For more information about the Caution Curriculum, or about poison prevention in general, call the Carolinas Poison Center education department at (704) 395-3795.

## Grill uses dried corn energy

The SnowFlame Outdoor Grill burns dried, whole-kernel corn as its heat source for cooking. The grill can cook for about seven hours on one gallon of corn. The loose corn fuel can be found at garden stores and feed stores. The grill's burner system is automatically fed. Because the unit uses forced air, it cooks with a convection effect. As a result, food stays moist and does not need to be turned. The corn kernels do not pop like popcorn or produce a "burnt" smell.

The grill is manufactured by SnowFlame, Inc., based in Asheville. For more information, visit the Web site [www.snowflame.com](http://www.snowflame.com) or call (828) 684-4445.

## Appalachian Summer Festival is in the mountains July 1-29

The 16th season of An Appalachian Summer Festival will run July 1-29 in Boone. Its line-up includes music, dance and theater performances, as well as some of the finest visual artists from across the nation.

Blue Ridge Electric will again co-sponsor the festival and host one of the headliners. This year the cooperative brings award-winning country music star Kenny Rogers to the outdoor fireworks concert Saturday, July 29 at 7:30 p.m. In recent years, Blue Ridge Electric has sponsored concerts by Willie Nelson and Mary Chapin Carpenter.

Other festival artists include violinist Pinchas Zukerman, The Duke Ellington Orchestra, Preservation Hall Jazz Band, folk singer Arlo Guthrie, The Paul Taylor Dance Company, and painter Wolf Kahn.

Nearly 25,000 people attended last year's festival on and around the campus of Appalachian State University. What attracts them is the scenic mountain setting and atmosphere of small-town friendliness, combined with world-class artistic programs. Under the artistic direction of Gil Morgenstern, the festival showcases world-renowned performers and visual artists, as well as some of the most exciting "up and coming" artists of tomorrow.

Discount tickets are available for members of Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation and Skyline Telephone Membership Corporation.

Otherwise, tickets for most performances are \$14 - \$20 for adults, \$8 - \$12 for students, and \$2 for all children age 12 and under. Subscription packages and flexible

"Create Your Own Series" packages are available at discounted prices. For more information, call (828) 262-4046, or (800) 841-ARTS outside of the Boone area. Web site: [www.appsummer.appstate.edu](http://www.appsummer.appstate.edu)



Blue Ridge Electric brings Kenny Rogers to the festival July 29.

## Aspiring writers wanted

The 7th annual Writer's Roundtable will be held June 24-25 on the campus of UNC-Wilmington. The weekend writer's conference is a low-cost way for beginning and unpublished writers to learn from established writing and publishing professionals from a variety of genres and subjects.

Scheduled teachers include: Clyde Edgerton, southern fiction; Stephen Hunter, action thrillers; Jerry Bledsoe, true crime; John Kessel, science fiction/fantasy; Kay Hooper, suspense; Charles Price, historical fiction; Sally Painter, romance; Paul Wilkes, nonfiction/biography; Wendy Brenner, short story; Nancy Jones, literary fiction; LaVonne Adams, poetry; and Kelly Easton, writing for young adults.

The two-day event costs \$50 per person. Pre-registration is preferred, but attendees may register at the door on the day of the event. For more information, or to receive a registration form, call (910) 763-9573, or e-mail [JEFPUBS1@aol.com](mailto:JEFPUBS1@aol.com).

## Write an essay, win a lamb

Horne Creek Living Historical Farm in Pinnacle is sponsoring a contest to promote the understanding and recognition of heritage animal breeds. First prize will be a lamb born on the farm, which will be awarded at the farm's Ice Cream Social on August 12. Contestants must be between the ages of 12 and 18 and a resident of North Carolina. The 2,500 to 3,000-word essay theme is "My favorite breed of \_\_\_\_\_." The blank should be filled with the word "cattle," "horse," "sheep" or "hog." The essay may be written to promote a heritage breed or a contemporary breed. Entries must be received by July 15.

For an application, call Horne Creek Living Historical Farm at (336) 325-2298.

## "Singing on the Mountain"

The 76th annual "Singing on the Mountain" will be held at Grandfather Mountain near Linville on June 25. David Jeremiah of the Turning Point radio ministry will deliver this year's featured sermon. The singing begins at 8:30 a.m.

Musical host for the day-long, outdoor event will be The Greens. Also scheduled to appear: The Easter Brothers, The Primitive, Malachi, Evelyn Conner, Cornerstone, Michael Combs, The Golden Street Quartet and The Gospel Enforcers.

Admission is free, and primitive camping is available on the grounds. For more information, call (828) 733-2013, or follow the links to the events calendar at [www.grandfather.com](http://www.grandfather.com).

## Photo exhibit takes visitors back to 1955 Ocracoke Island



Special Collections: Photographic Archives, University of Louisville

An exhibit of documentary photographs detailing the life of the Ocracoke Island fishing village in the summer of 1955 is currently on display at the Ocracoke Preservation Society Museum through November 26.

"Ocracoke Island, July 1955" features 30 prints from a collection of 115 pictures taken by that month by Martha

McMillan Roberts. Roberts was on commission by Standard Oil of New Jersey to document the island's relationship to the company, which supplied fuel to commercial fishermen.

Admission to the exhibit is free. For more information, call (252) 928-7375, or e-mail [ops@ocracoke-museum.org](mailto:ops@ocracoke-museum.org).



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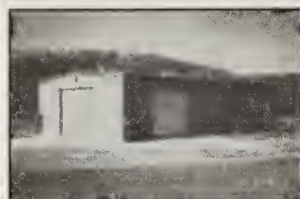






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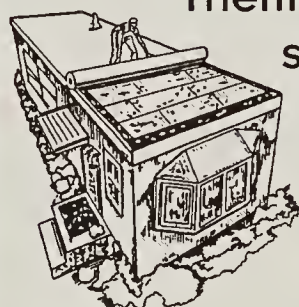
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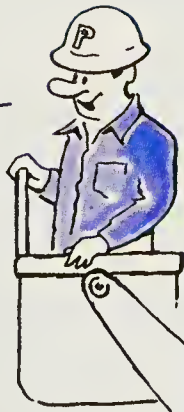
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Can you replace  
the digits?

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{ONE} \\
 \times \quad \text{N} \\
 \hline
 \text{TWO}
 \end{array}$$

Answers on page 37



We have put the **Horse** before the **Cart** in this puzzle.  
To go from one to the other  
you must drop a letter in  
the first step, then change a  
letter in each subsequent  
step, spelling a word on  
each rung of this ladder-  
gram Your answers may be  
different from ours.

1. **H O R S E**
2. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
3. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
4. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
5. \_ \_ \_ \_ \_
6. **C A R T**

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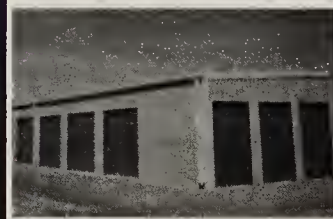
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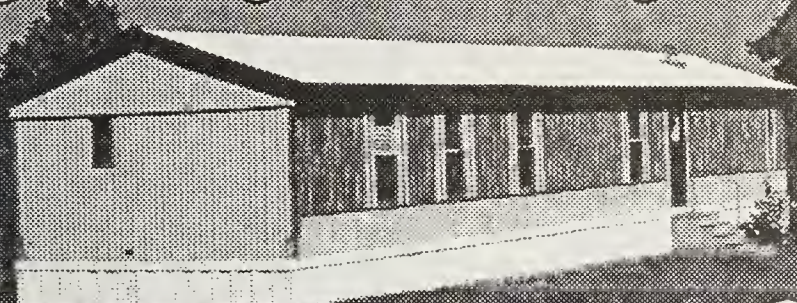
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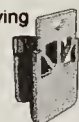
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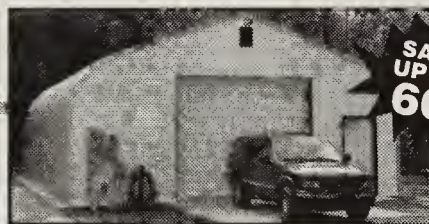


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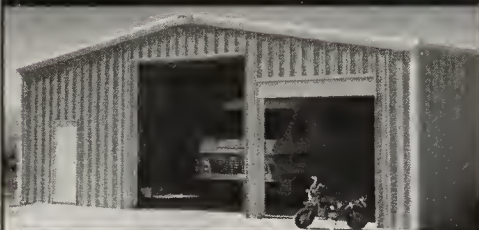
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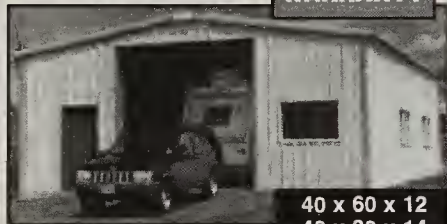
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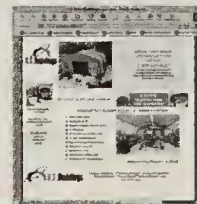
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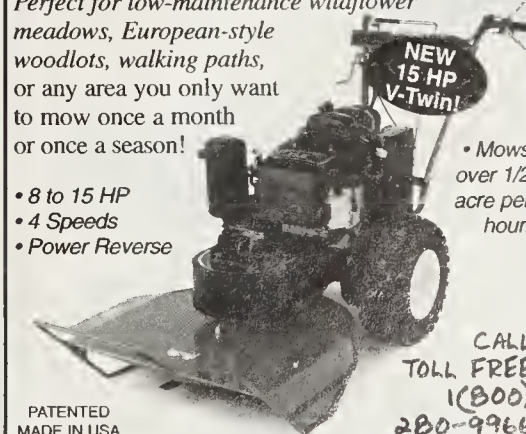
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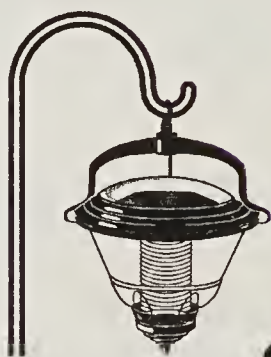
By James Dulley

# Outdoor security and landscaping lights – without the wiring

New, brighter, solar light technology, styles



Can be mounted on a wall or a post



New bulb technology provides brighter light and longer run time



The styles of many of the new solar-powered accent and security lights have gone contemporary. For versatility and because they are so easy to move as you change your landscaping, select ones that can be mounted either on a post or against a wall. With advances in solar cell technology and efficiency, the smaller solar cells are integrated into the sleek new designs.

If you tried older solar lights before and were dissatisfied,

you will be surprised at the much brighter light output, styles and features of the new ones. The older dim incandescent bulbs have been replaced with high-tech white LED's (light-emitting diodes), fluorescent and halogen bulbs. Not only are they brighter, but their higher efficiency provides more hours of light at night on a single day's recharge from the sun.

Although not for your garden, the newest designs are solar-powered street number lights. One design that I use is a solar mailbox with my lighted red street numbers on each side. I also have another solar address locator, with 4-inch amber LED numerals up closer to my front door. The numbers are visible up to about 100 feet away.

These not only insure that the pizza delivery person finds your house before the pizza gets cold, but it enhances security. If you ever make a 911 call, the life squad or

fire department can find your house immediately. From what paramedics say, finding the proper house quickly can make the difference between life and death.

Solar-powered lights that use LED bulbs provide the most efficient and most hours of light at night. After a sunny day, eight to ten hours of light is possible the following night. LED's are most effective for landscaping accent lighting and marking pathways and steps up to a deck. As a reference, they are generally not bright enough to read by at night.

The brightest solar-powered lights use small compact fluorescent bulbs. These actually produce some usable light that you can work or read near. They typically use four- or five-watt bulbs. This may not sound like much light, but at night with no other lights on, it is quite bright. The fluorescent bulbs, like LED's, last a very long time.

For a combination of security and landscaping lighting, select an LED/halogen motion-sensing model. At dusk, the electric eye automatically switches on a dim amber LED for accent or pathway lighting. When motion is detected within 20 feet of the light, a bright halogen bulb comes on for three minutes. This will provide enough light for guests to safely walk to your door and it will definitely scare away prowlers. Security-only, bright motion-sensing solar lights are also effective. These typically use a remote solar panel so that the light itself can be located in a shady area, like under a roof overhang. The solar panel, less than one foot square, is attached to the light with a tiny wire. These can cycle on and off more than 100 times on a single day's charge from the sun.

Other solar-powered lighting options are flashlights and bright lanterns. Some have a fluorescent and torch light on one side for camping or car emergencies, like changing a tire, and a warning flashing light on the other side. A solar panel is built into the side. The flasher will operate up to 40 hours and the torch light up to 8 hours on a single charge.

Write for (or instantly download - [www.dulley.com](http://www.dulley.com)) Utility Bills Update No. 756 - buyer's guide of new high-tech solar-powered street address markers, accent, security and specialty lights, styles, max. on-times, bulb types and prices. Please include \$3.00 and a business-size SASE. Send to James Dulley, c/o Carolina Country, P.O. Box 54987, Cincinnati, OH 45254.

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By Hank Smith

## June hints

1. To help nandinas hold berries for winter color, apply a double handful of phosphate fertilizer to each plant. Spade lightly into soil; water-in well.

2. If bearded iris (German iris, flags) have become crowded, divide and replant.

3. Among good mulches for plants: pine needles, oak leaves, old sawdust, cotton and peanut hulls, shredded bark and bark chips, and peat moss that has been soaked in water for several hours.

4. Soon some mums will be ready for pinching back. Tip growth that is removed will root easily in coarse, damp sand. In three weeks, roots will have formed. By blooming time, these make good plants.

5. Stake and tie brittle new growth of clematis vines.

6. Root cuttings of geranium and coleus to be potted as houseplants over-winter. Root leaf-cuttings of succulents.

7. Encircle lilacs with complete plant food. Scratch into soil; thoroughly water.

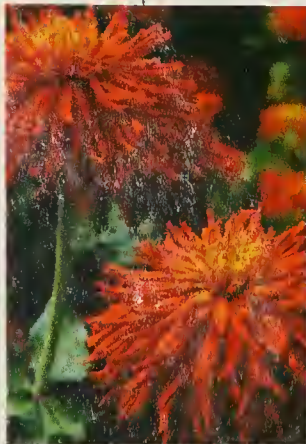
8. Nandinas and hollies sometimes shed berries in dry, hot weather. Watch carefully; don't let them suffer from lack of water.

9. Poinsettias being carried through the summer for houseplants next winter need tall shoots pruned away to encourage a bushier plant.

10. Eggplants need full sun all day to produce their best. Too much nitrogen before fruit begins to develop also causes fruit set failure.

11. Hummingbirds' favorite annuals: petunias, phlox, salvia, flowering tobacco, Vesper iris and heuchra. They also hover over blossoms of Buddleia (butterfly bush).

12. Start groundcovers of liriopse, Mondo grass and English ivy where grass refuses to grow.



## During hot, dry spells of summer apply good mulch to all shrubs.

Mild periods of weather last winter, interrupted by hard freezes, caused random dying of branches in some azaleas. Cut dead and dying branches down to live wood. Keep faded blooms clipped off shrubs. These sometimes prevent formation of flower buds for next season.

Give houseplants an outing by placing them on a shady porch or in a shady garden spot. They can be effectively placed in the foreground of larger shrubs where they contribute a tropical effect.

While deciduous plants are in full-leaf, make note of trees and shrubs to be planted in the fall. Set out summer and fall-flowering perennials for late season color. Replant summer vegetables as they fade and become non-bearing. This assures a fall harvest.

Give mums a light application of complete fertilizer every two weeks. Make cuttings of azaleas, camellias and boxwood from new wood.

### Lawn care

A good maintenance program is the best way to control weeds in the lawn. Proper fertilizing, watering and mowing are essential for a good lawn. If you used a pre-emergence weed killer, crabgrass should be no problem. If it was not applied earlier, use an organic arsenate. They're usually sold as crabgrass killer, but also will control barnyardgrass, goosegrass, crowfoot grass, Dallis grass, stinkgrass and Bahia grass. Follow instructions on package.

### Cantaloupe flowers

Male flowers usually appear first. These do not produce fruit and naturally abort. A small percentage of later blooms are female. Bees must transfer pollen from the male to the female flowers for normal development of fruit. If an insufficient number of bees are present, poor fruit set, fruit shape and size may result. Bees are susceptible to most insecticides. Cease insecticide application or apply in late afternoon.

### Annuals

Most annuals are well into their blooming period, but some can be planted now and still have time to flower before the first killing frost of autumn. Among the best to germinate quickly and grow rapidly are: annual phlox, portulaca, zinnia, marigold, lobelia, sweet alyssum and cosmos. To speed flowering, sow seed where plants are to remain.

To hasten flowering:

1. Scoop out a shallow depression and mix a teaspoonful of plant food into soil.
2. Cover fertilizer with about a half-inch of soil,

sow three seeds into soil.

3. Cover seed lightly with fine soil. If garden soil is heavy, mix sand with covering soil.

4. Sprinkle daily with a fine spray of water, taking care not to wash seed from soil.

5. When seedlings appear, thin out the two weakest plants because undisturbed seedlings will grow and flower first. Discards may be planted elsewhere.

6. Fertilize plants when flower buds appear. In most instances, autumn-flowering annuals are more showy and brilliant than those blooming in the spring.

### Consider the Tupelo

The Tupelo tree, also known as Pepperidge, sourgum and blackgum, grows well in low, moist places. Tupelos grow slowly and love moisture. Mature trees reach 70 feet in height. They are noted for colorful autumn leaves. This hardy, distinguished tree bears leaves of scarlet, crimson and copper in the fall. Small trees are best for moving. A large root ball is important. Few trees are as ideal for a low, moist spot in the landscape. Small trees sometimes are found beneath mature specimens in wooded areas. Always get permission from the landowner before moving plants from forests.

### Cutting roses

The moving of too much stem and foliage can weaken rose bushes, particularly during the first year as the plant becomes established in its new environment. After a year, cut stems at any desired length as long as well-developed leaves or eyes remain between the cut and the main stem. For hybrid teas, cut stems about one-quarter-inch above an eye. This will leave two eyes to develop new growth. Make certain that stem is cut at a 45-degree angle. Secondary or side flower buds may be removed from hybrid teas if larger blooms are desired. Merely pinch off side buds as soon as they are large enough to grasp. The same applies if large dahlia blooms are desired.

### Azalea lacebugs

Plants in sunny sites can be damaged in summer by lacebugs. This parasite weakens plants. Lacebugs spot leaves with a whitish speckling, resulting in gradual dying. These small insects are about one-eighth-inch long, lace-like in appearance. They locate on underside of leaves. Brown droplets of liquid sometimes are evident. Eggs embed on bottom side of leaves in winter. Young nymphs hatch in spring and begin feeding. Several generations are produced during the year. Damage continues until late autumn. Treat with systemic pesticide immediately when observed to prevent damage from successive generations.



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Percy P. Cassidy Poles Apart  
Answer: Mind over matter  
Dom-Nos.  
Answer: ONE x N=TWO  
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- 1/4 cup nonfat sour cream
- 2 tablespoons salsa
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 12 fresh mushrooms
- 1 medium sweet red pepper, cut into 1- 1/2 inch pieces
- 1 medium green pepper, cut into 1- 1/2 inch pieces
- 1 medium red onion, cut into wedges
- 1 medium yellow summer squash, cut into 1- 1/2 inch pieces
- 1 tablespoon olive or vegetable oil

For dip, combine the first four ingredients in a small bowl; refrigerate for 30 minutes or overnight. Toss vegetables with oil. Place in a single layer in an ungreased 15-by-10-by-1-inch baking pan. Bake, uncovered at 450 degrees for 10 minutes or until crisp-tender. Serve with the dip. Yield: 8 servings.

Serving size: 1 cup of vegetables with 2 tablespoons of dip equals 65 calories, 140 mg sodium, 1 mg cholesterol, 10 gm carbohydrate, 2 gm protein, 2 gm fat.

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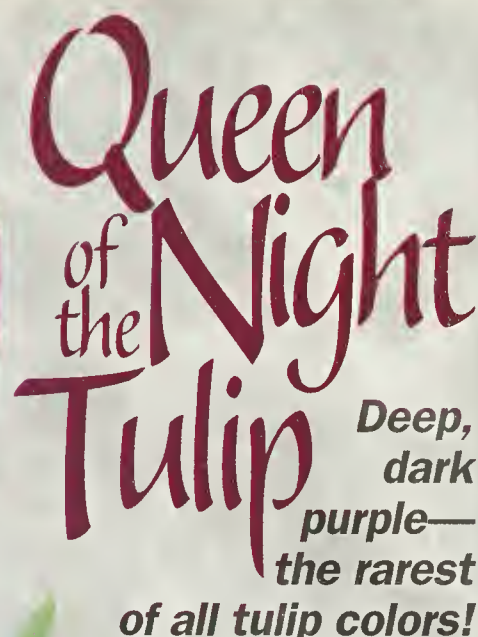
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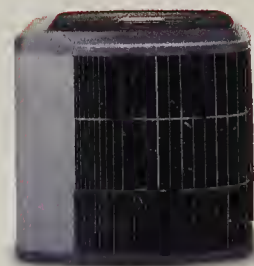


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